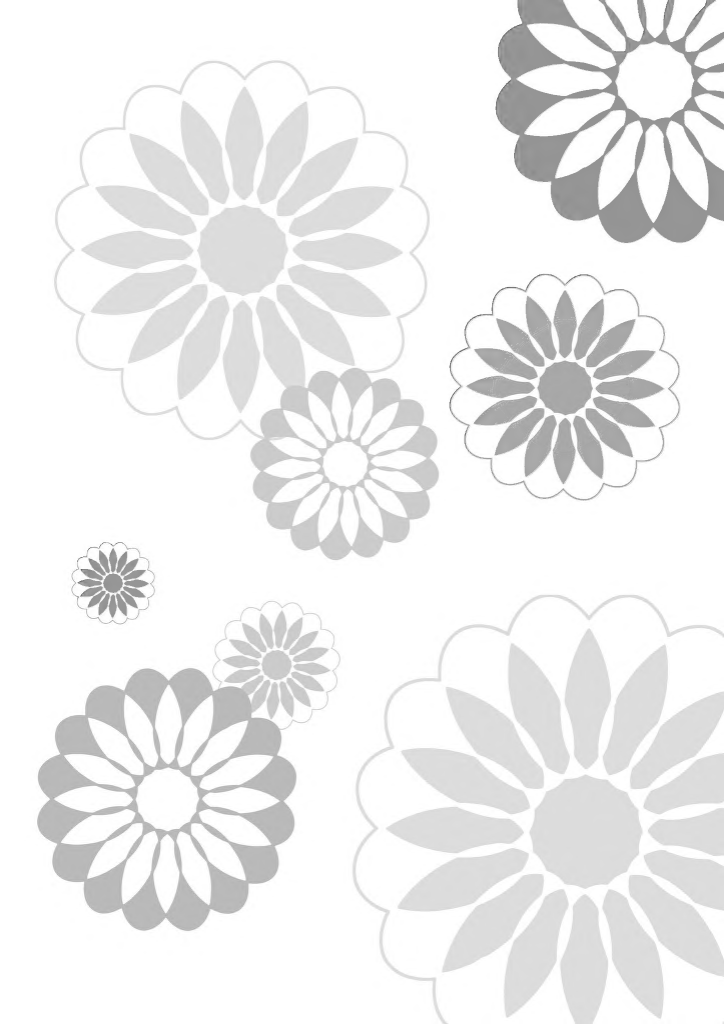
Oh My Goddess!

ああっ女神さまっ

12

藤島康介

KOSUKE FUJISHIMA



Oh My Goddess!

ああっ女神さまっ

12

STORY AND ART BY

Kosuke Fujishima

ORIGINAL TRANSLATION BY

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LETTERING AND TOUCH-UP BY

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WITH Tom2K, Tom Orzechowski,
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DARK HORSE MANGA™

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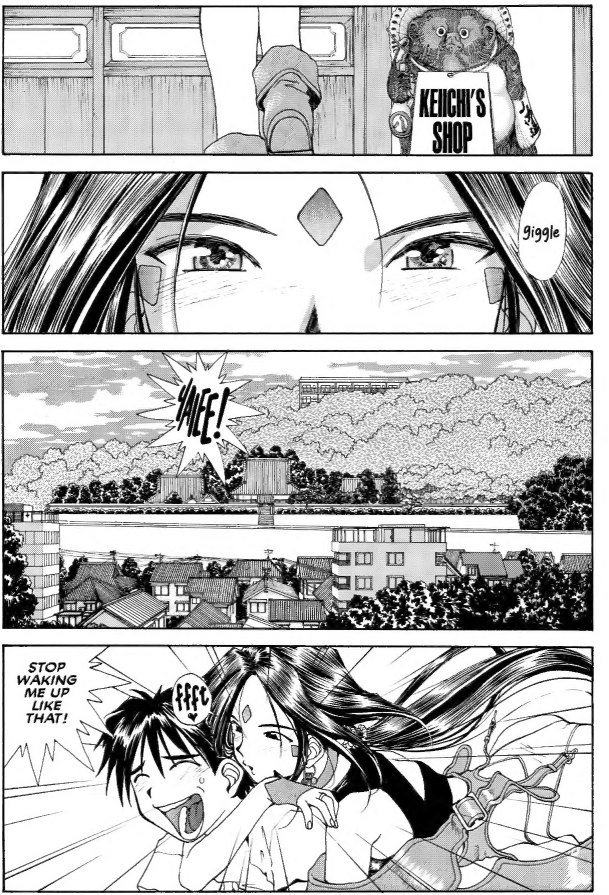

KEIICHI'S SHOP
giggle
YAIEE!
STOP WAKING ME UP LIKE THAT!
FFFC

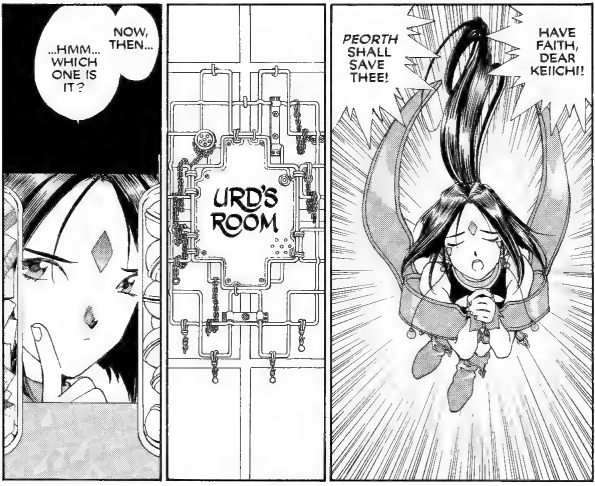
CHAPTER 68

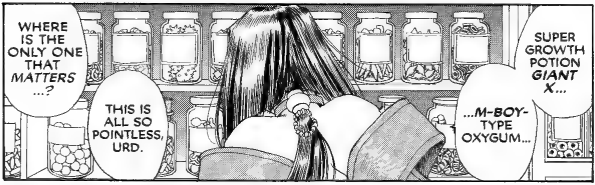
The Battle for Keiichi

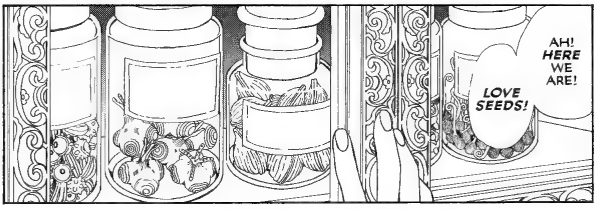
NO! NOOO!
OH, DON'T BE SO COY. YOU KNOW IT'S YOUR HEART'S DESIRE...!
SONY
CDP C-BR
Misobox
200 2-PLY

HELLLP!
beat beat
IF SOMETHING... DOESN'T...
...CHANGE SOON...
IS IT PEORTH AGAIN?
UH, NO, NO...
OH, KEIICHI ...!

AH, HA, HA! I'M FINE! *FINE!*
...
I'M DOING ALL I CAN, AND HE *STILL* WON'T GET WITH THE PROGRAM.
sigh I JUST DON'T GET IT.
THE POOR BOY IS SIMPLY... *FRIGID?!*
AH?! *PARBLEU!* DON'T TELL ME...
IF I HAD ONLY REALIZED SOONER... I COULD HAVE SPARED YOU *SUCH* SUFFERING!
OH, HOW *TRAGIC!*

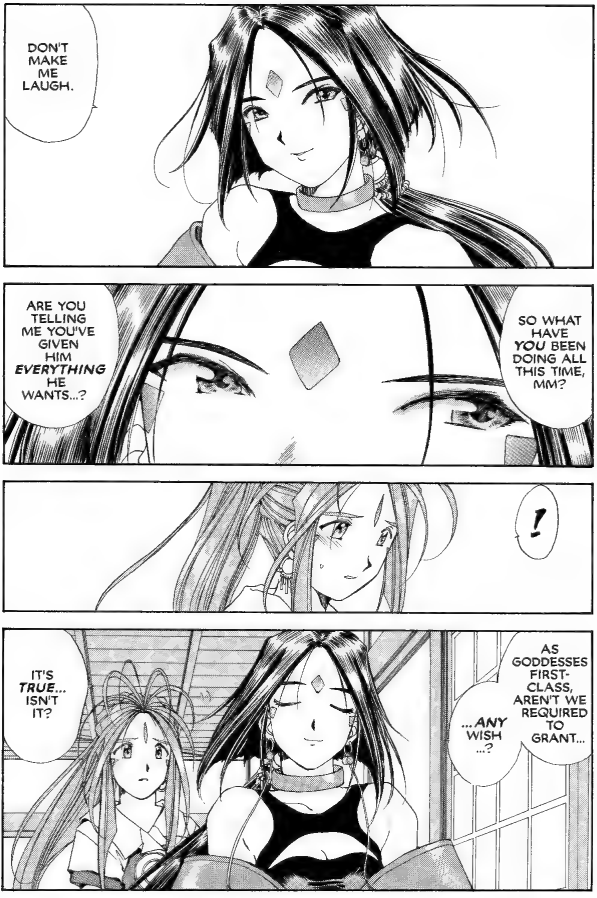

NOW, THEN...
...HMM... WHICH ONE IS IT?
URD'S ROOM
HAVE FAITH, DEAR KEIICHI!
PEORTH SHALL SAVE THEE!


WHERE IS THE ONLY ONE THAT MATTERS ...?
THIS IS ALL SO POINTLESS, URD.
SUPER GROWTH POTION GIANT X...
...M-BOY-TYPE OXYGUM...


AH! HERE WE ARE!
LOVE SEEDS!

A PILL THAT MAKES YOU LOVE ONLY PEORTH!
HMPH! SUCH A... A JEJUNE DRUG. I MEAN, IT MAKES YOU FALL IN LOVE WITH ANYONE.
...INTO SOME-THING MORE... ELEGANT.
BOMF
SO... I SHALL IMPROVE IT FOR YOU, URD...
gasp!
PEORTH ...?
SHHNK
AAH... HAS NOT EVEN THE NAME A REFINED AND GRACEFUL RING?
I DUB THEE... THE LOVE DROP! ♡

WHEW... IT'S ONLY BELL-DANDY...
LUB-DUP LUB-DUP
WHA--?
...
PEORTH... I KNOW YOU'RE JUST TRYING TO FULFILL YOUR CONTRACT...
OH?
...BUT I MUST ASK THAT YOU DO NOT BURDEN KEIICHI ANY FURTHER WITH YOUR... YOUR PROVOCATIVE BEHAVIOR...
BUT...

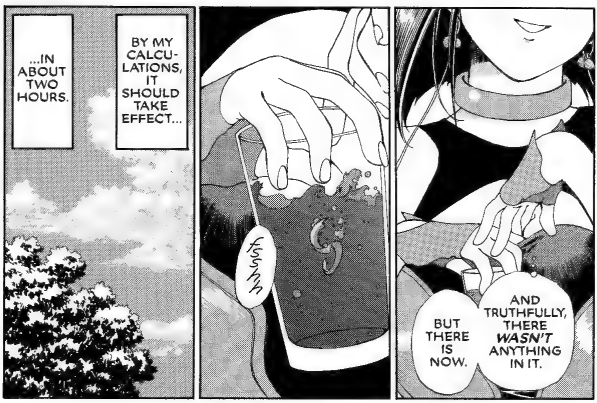

DON'T MAKE ME LAUGH.
SO WHAT HAVE *YOU* BEEN DOING ALL THIS TIME, MM?
ARE YOU TELLING ME YOU'VE GIVEN HIM *EVERYTHING* HE WANTS...?
!
AS GODDESSES FIRST-CLASS, AREN'T WE REQUIRED TO GRANT...
...*ANY* WISH ...?
IT'S *TRUE*... ISN'T IT?

AND I'LL DO AS I PLEASE.
OH ...!
THAT'S ALL.
UNLIKE YOU, I INTEND TO SATISFY HIS EVERY DESIRE.
PEDRETA

..THANKS, BELL-CHAN.
AH...
I THOUGHT IT'D BE A LITTLE BETTER IN THE SHADE, BUT...
PHEWW
tink
scoot scoot
PEORTH?!
MY PLEASURE.

S-SOB!
D-DON'T TELL ME YOU SUSPECT ME OF PUTTING SOMETHING IN IT?!
HOW CRUEL! HAVE YOU NO CONCERN FOR MY FEELINGS...?
UM... ALL RIGHT, ALL RIGHT ALREADY. I'LL DRINK IT.

R-REALLY? sniff
OH, I'M SO GLAD!

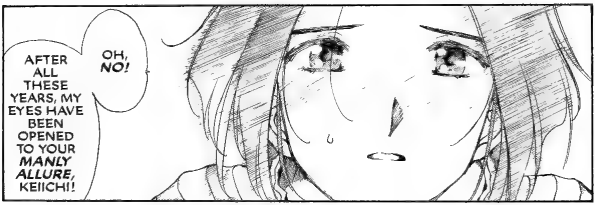

...IN ABOUT TWO HOURS.
BY MY CALCULATIONS, IT SHOULD TAKE EFFECT...
ksssh
BUT THERE IS NOW.
AND TRUTHFULLY, THERE WASN'T ANYTHING IN IT.

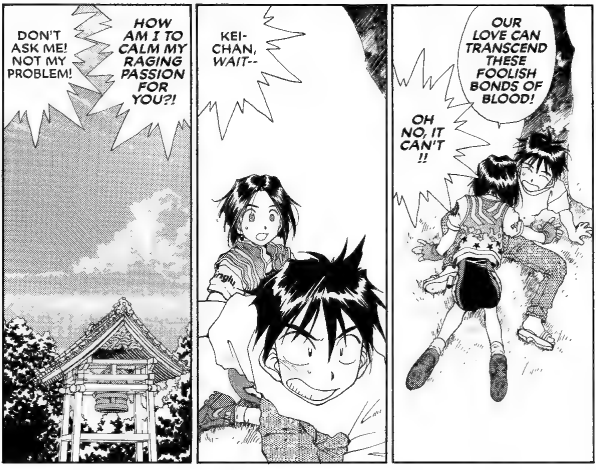
HEY.
WHAT'S UP? IS HE ASLEEP?
...KEIICHI, DEAR!
WHEN YOU OPEN YOUR EYES, YOU'LL BE MY PRISONER OF LOVE...
UM, ER... MASTER KEIICHI IS TAKING HIS REST!
AT THIS MOMENT, OF COURSE, THERE WAS NO WAY THAT PEORTH COULD HAVE KNOWN...
SOFTLY, NOW! LET US STEAL AWAY!
YOU'RE NOT UP TO NO GOOD AGAIN, ARE YOU, PEORTH...?

AND THAT IT HAD THEREFORE *GREATLY ACCELERATED* ITS OPERATION.
...THAT THE CARBON DIOXIDE IN THE SODA HAD AN UNEXPECTED CATALYTIC EFFECT ON HER *soi-disant* "LOVE DROP."
C'MON, BRO! WAKE UP!
ZZZZ
KEI-CHAN?
NOR THAT SHE HAD MADE *ONE OTHER* GRIEVOUS ERROR...
THE PICTURES ARE READY, RIGHT? I CAME TO SEE THEM, SO...
LOOK AT YOU, ZONKED OUT UNDER A TREE!
UH...
HUH?

KRASH
K...
...KEI-CHAN ?!
OH, IT'S JUST MEGUMI...
I... I LOVE YOU.

I MEAN...YOU MUST MEAN THAT *WARM, FAMILIAL SIBLING LOVE,* RIGHT?
...r-right?
WH-WH-WHAT ARE YOU *BABBLING* ABOUT, MEGUMI?!
I LOVE YOU *SO MUCH.*

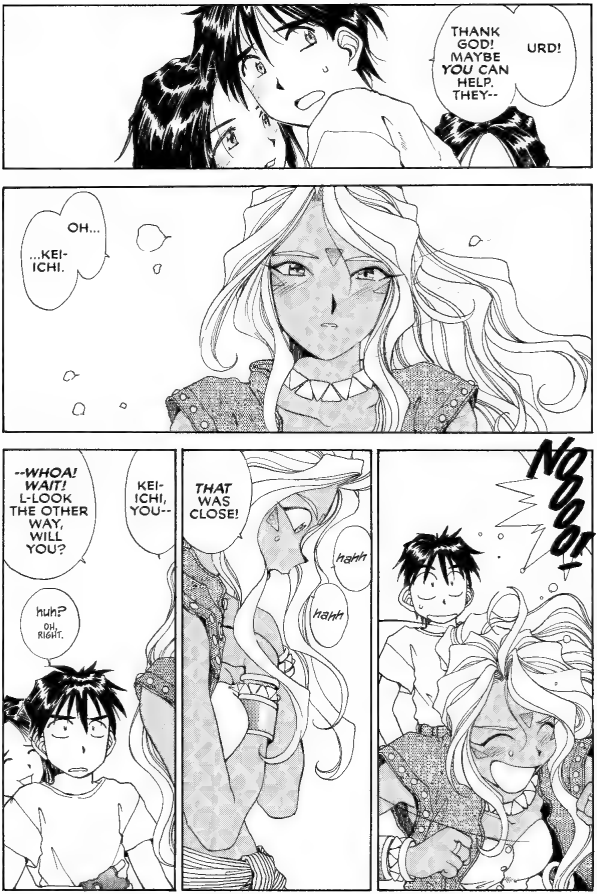

AFTER ALL THESE YEARS, MY EYES HAVE BEEN OPENED TO YOUR *MANLY ALLURE,* KEIICHI!
OH, *NO!*


DON'T ASK ME! NOT MY PROBLEM!
HOW AM I TO CALM MY RAGING PASSION FOR YOU?!
KEI-CHAN, *WAIT--*
OUR LOVE CAN TRANSCEND THESE FOOLISH BONDS OF BLOOD!
OH NO, IT CAN'T !!

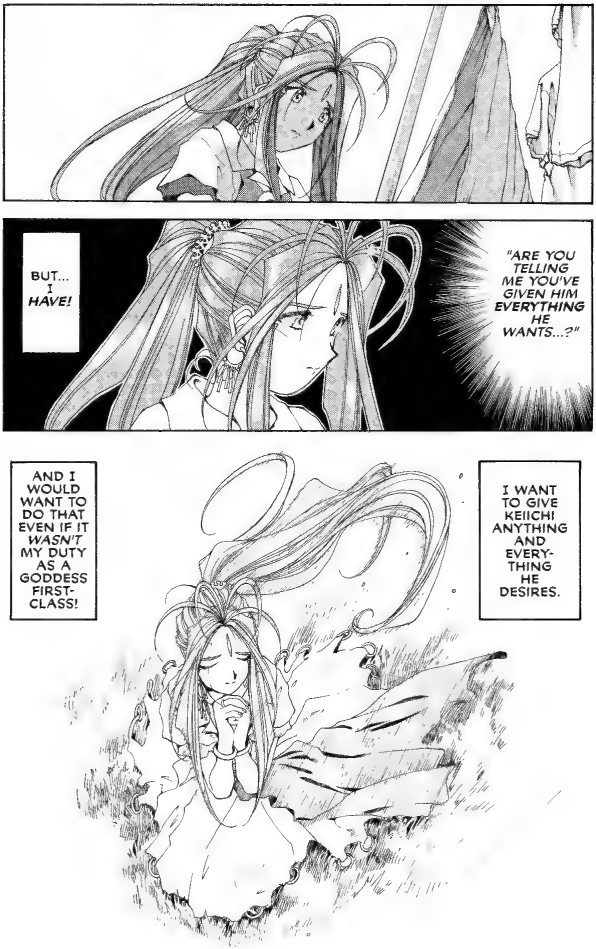
I CAN HARDLY HEAR THE TV OVER ALL THIS RACKET...
LET ME IN MY LOVE!
BANG! BANG!
HEY! YOU TWO NEED TO QUIET DOWN...
SLAM
I'M SORRY, SKULD.
MY SISTER'S GONE CRA--
OH, KEIICHI...
...

I LOVE YOU.
NOW...
...NOW LET'S JUST ALL CALM DOWN, HERE...
AHH, THAT FACE, RIGID WITH ALARM!
AHH, THESE CLOTHES YOU NEVER CHANGE!
SO WILD! SO HOT AND HUNKY!
...
KEI-CHAN...

PEORTH, YOU NASTY LITTLE SNEAK! YOU DID IT AGAIN!
...HAH!! I KNEW IT! THERE'S ONE MISS-ING!
...
MEAN-WHILE...
URD'S ROOM
AND WITH MY LOVE SEEDS, OF ALL THINGS... SHEESH.
cham
kei
YOU KNOW WHERE PEORTH IS...?
YO, KEIICHI!


THANK GOD! MAYBE YOU CAN HELP. THEY--
URD!
OH...
...KEI-ICHI.
--WHOA! WAIT! L-LOOK THE OTHER WAY, WILL YOU?
KEI-ICHI, YOU--
huh? OH, RIGHT.
THAT WAS CLOSE!
haHH
haHH
NOOO!

MY GUESS IS THAT IDIOT PEORTH WENT AND DID SOMETHING TO MY LOVE SEEDS...
...BEST AS I CAN TELL, SHE TURNED THEM INTO A SORT OF GENERIC LOVE POTION THAT WORKS ON EVERYONE YOU LOOK AT.
WHAT?! WHY'D SHE WANT TO DO THAT?!
I DON'T THINK SHE WANTED TO...
...MESSING WITH MY POTIONS ISN'T A GAME FOR AMATEURS.
YEAH, I SEE.

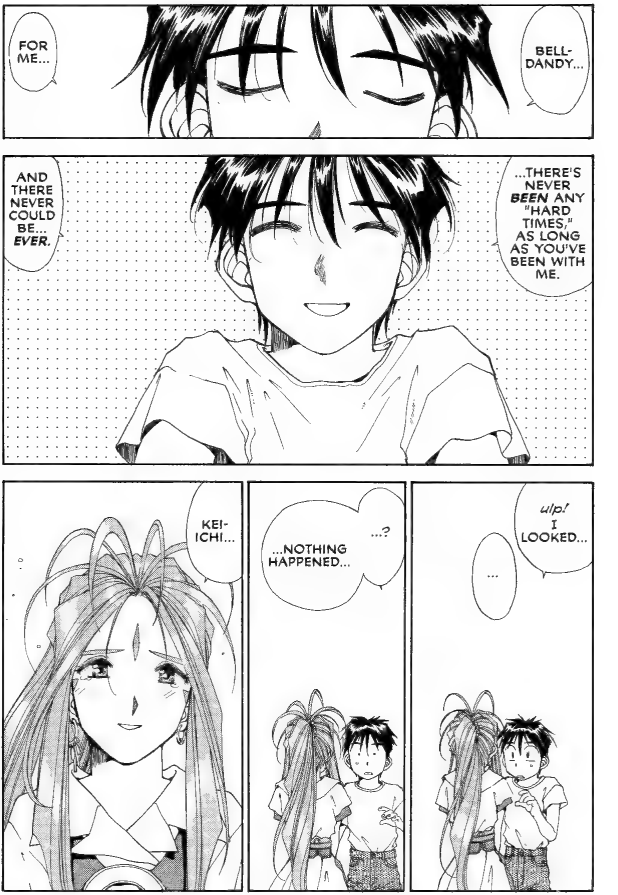

"ARE YOU TELLING ME YOU'VE GIVEN HIM EVERYTHING HE WANTS...?"
BUT... I HAVE!
I WANT TO GIVE KEIICHI ANYTHING AND EVERY-THING HE DESIRES.
AND I WOULD WANT TO DO THAT EVEN IF IT WASN'T MY DUTY AS A GODDESS FIRST-CLASS!

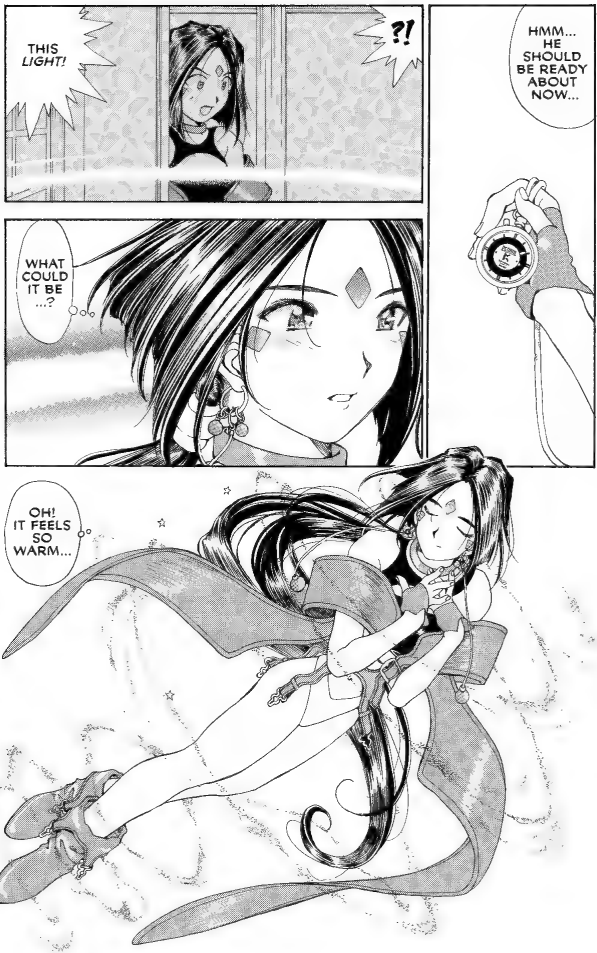
BUT IT'S STILL...
tmp
...STILL TOO SOON...
AH?!
UH-OH...
SHHMP
B-BELL-DANDY!!
DON'T LOOK AT ME! NOT NOW!
?

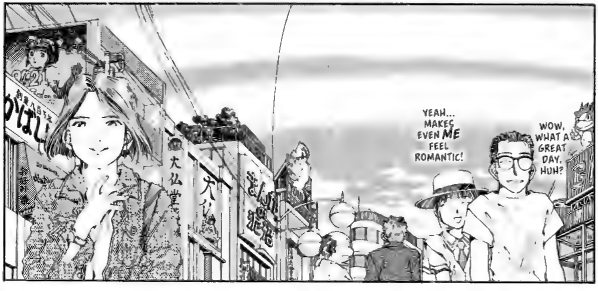
OH...
...NO.
I, TOO!
oops
HANDS OFF MY BROTHER, SISTERS!
WATCH YOUR MOUTH, SKUID!
BACK OF THE LINE, URD!
KIND OF HARD WORK, BEING A STUD...
!
KEIICHI ...?
KEIICHI!
PEORTH USED SOME DRUG ON ME, AND--
WHOA! I TOLD YOU NOT TO LOOK AT ME!

!
KEIICHI...
...D-DON'T YOU WANT *ME* TO FALL IN LOVE WITH YOU, TOO...?

NO! I...I MEAN *YES*, B-BUT...
YOU KNOW I STILL HAVE TO BE HERE WITH YOU...
...AND I *STILL* WANT TO BE HERE.
CAN YOU ACCEPT THAT...
...KEI-ICHI?
CAN YOU ACCEPT ME BEING HERE WITH YOU?
EVEN... EVEN IF...
...MORE HARD TIMES AWAIT US?
BELL-DANDY!


FOR ME...
BELL-DANDY...
AND THERE NEVER COULD BE... EVER.
...THERE'S NEVER BEEN ANY "HARD TIMES," AS LONG AS YOU'VE BEEN WITH ME.
KEI-ICHI...
...?
...NOTHING HAPPENED...
...
ulp! I LOOKED...


THIS LIGHT!
?!
HMM... HE SHOULD BE READY ABOUT NOW...
WHAT COULD IT BE ...?
OH! IT FEELS SO WARM...

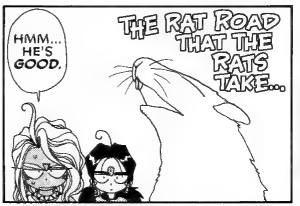

YEAH... MAKES EVEN ME FEEL ROMANTIC!
WOW, WHAT A GREAT DAY, HUH?

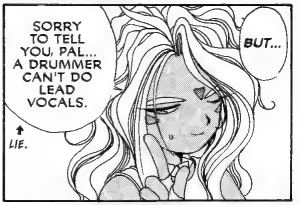
WHOA... EVEN *I* GOT AFFECTED.
? ?
WHAT'M I DOING *HERE?*
HUH?
STILL... YOU KNOW... I WONDER WHY IT *DIDN'T* WORK ON BELL-DANDY?
...*YOU* WERE IN BIG TROUBLE ?!
FOR A MOMENT I THOUGHT WE WERE IN *BIG* TROUBLE.

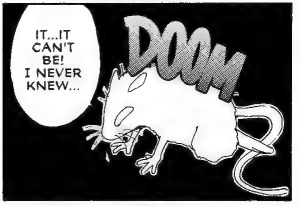
MY POTIONS AREN'T SO *POORLY MADE*...
...THAT THEY'D SCREW UP A *PERFECT MATCH*
SILLY BOY...
...OF *COURSE* IT DIDN'T.
THAT EVENING, BENEATH A GLORIOUS SUNSET...
NO THANK YOU!
YOU BET! SHALL I DEMON-STRATE ...?
YOU *SURE* ABOUT THAT, URD?
SHE'LL BE FINE IN THE MORN-ING
··THE FOURTH GODDESS SHARED HER SWEET WORDS OF LOVE WITH A CERAMIC *TANUKI*
OOH, SO YOU'RE THE *STRONG, SILENT* TYPE HMM?
THANKS TO THE POTION URD SLIPPED PEORTH IN REVENGE··

THE ADVENTURES OF THE MINI-GODDESSES

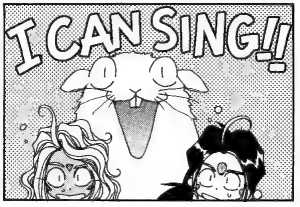
THE SECRET OF SONG





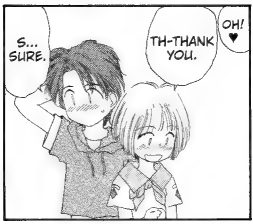


SO YOU STARTED A BAND--NOW WHAT?



CHAPTER 69

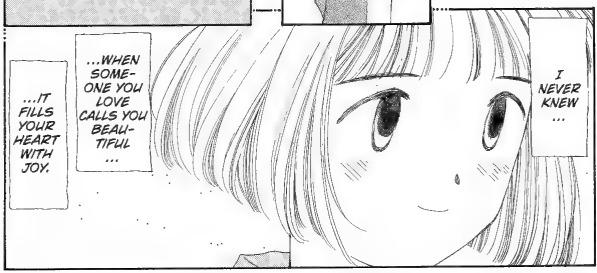
Okay, This Is the Real Date

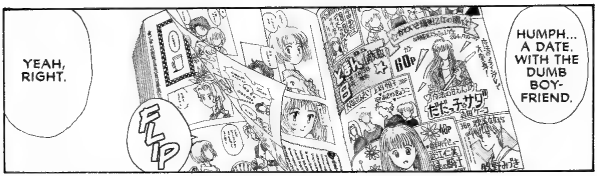

S... SURE.
TH-THANK YOU.
OH! ♥

YOUR HAIR.
... YOU CUT IT, DIDN'T YOU?

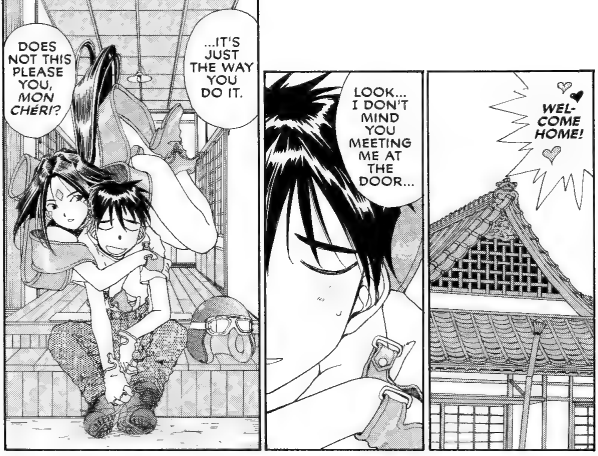
YOU LOOK... UM... BEAU-TI-FUL.

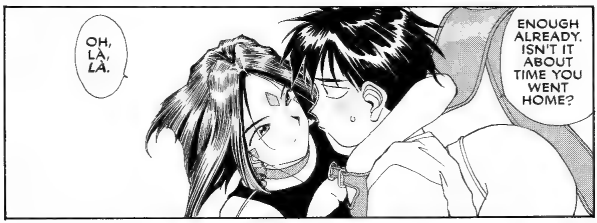
UM... SURE, OKAY.
SO, UH... WANNA GO NOW? THE MOVIE'S ABOUT TO START.


I NEVER KNEW ...
...WHEN SOME-ONE YOU LOVE CALLS YOU BEAU-TIFUL ...
...IT FILLS YOUR HEART WITH JOY.


YEAH, RIGHT.
FLIP
HUMPH... A DATE. WITH THE DUMB BOY-FRIEND.

THAT'S WHAT PASSES FOR A DATE DOWN HERE?
GO SEE A MOVIE... WALK IN THE PARK.
HMM...
I WONDER IF IT'S ACTUALLY FUN...
KEIICHI'S BACK!
THIS IS PROBABLY THE SORT OF THING THAT DOPEY LITTLE KID SKULD WOULD LIKE... HEH, HEH...
SLAM


DOES NOT THIS PLEASE YOU, MON CHÉRI?
...IT'S JUST THE WAY YOU DO IT.
LOOK... I DON'T MIND YOU MEETING ME AT THE DOOR...
WEL-COME HOME!


OH, LA, LA.
ENOUGH ALREADY. ISN'T IT ABOUT TIME YOU WENT HOME?

YOU SEE, IF YOU WOULD JUST HURRY UP AND NAME YOUR HEART'S DESIRE...
...I COULD GO HOME ANYTIME.

EVEN YOU MUST HAVE A DESIRE OR TWO.
DESIRE, DESIRE ...!
...
KEIICHI'S GOING TO GRANT ME MY WISH?!
EH? OH !!
HAH?
DON'T YOU EVER LISTEN TO OTHER PEOPLE?
...
EH?
BUT... STILL...
...WHO WOULD EVER EXPECT THAT FROM YOU?
YES...
huh?
WHOA! I DIDN'T SAY THAT!
HOW WONDER-FUL!! I CAN FEEL KEIICHI'S LOVE ENVELOP ME!

AND SO...
IT *DOES* SOUND INTEREST-ING.
uh-oh
I MEAN, HOW SHOULD I TELL BELL-DANDY?
WHAT AM I GONNA DO *NOW?*
OH, *MAN* ...!
KEIICHI'S SHOP

JUST ONE REQUEST, THEN.
TOMORROW. WITH ME.
A DATE... S'IL VOUS PLAÎT.
I FROZE UP FOR ABOUT FIVE MINUTES...
...BY THE TIME I CAME TO MY SENSES, SHE WAS GONE.
I COULDN'T EVEN FIND HER TO SAY, "NO WAY."
BUT I DON'T WANT TO HIDE ANYTHING FROM BELL-DANDY...
Tea Room
...I GUESS THE TRICK IS TO ACT LIKE IT'S NO BIG DEAL.
YOU'RE GOING OUT? WITH PEORTH?

...HMM... MAYBE THAT SOUNDED A *BIT* UNNATURAL?
...
*Completely unnatural.
GOSH! WHAT A PAIN!
TH-TH-TH-THAT'S RIGHT! WOW! GEE! NO IDEA HOW *THAT* HAPPENED! HA HA!
WELL! THAT'S ALL RIGHT, THEN!
R-REALLY?! THANKS A--
I'LL MAKE A PICNIC LUNCH FOR ALL OF US.
BUT THAT'S WONDERFUL!
"FOR...
EH?
"...ALL OF US."
HUH?

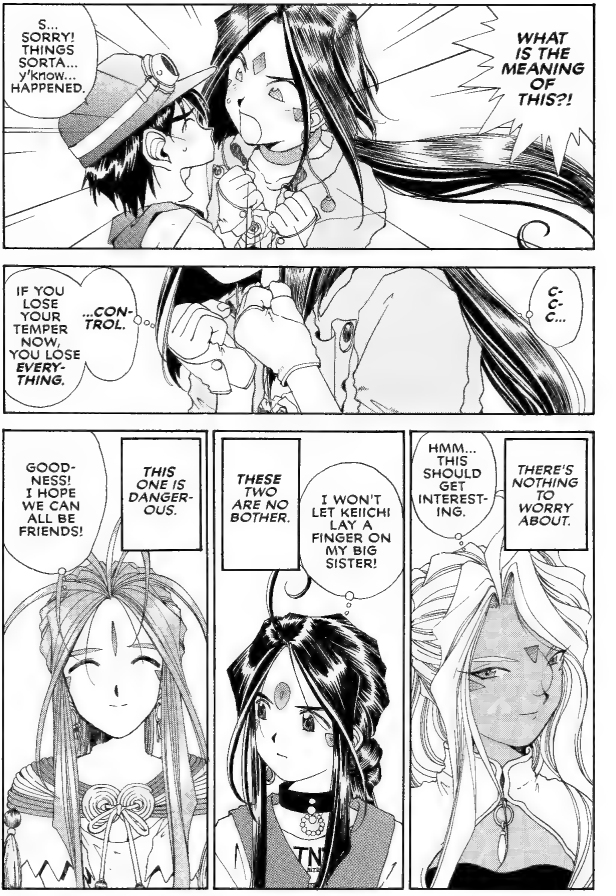
BUT IN BEST SHOJO MANGA FASHION, PEORTH WAS THERE THIRTY MINUTES EARLY.
...THEY ARRANGED TO MEET AT THE FOUNTAIN IN FRONT OF THE STATION, AT TEN A.M.
THE NEXT DAY...
WHOA!
ULP!
HEH, HEH... TODAY I AM PERFECTION INCARNATE.
AND WHY IS THAT?
DO I DARE TALK TO HER...? NO WAY...
OW!
WHAT ARE YOU LOOKING AT, JERK?!

--THE SECRETS OF HUMAN DATING!
BECAUSE I HAVE MASTERED THEM--
...WE'LL DRIFT THROUGH A PEACEFUL WORLD OF FANTASY AT THE AQUARIUM...
SIGH HOW DREAMY!
LOOK, DARLING! IT HAS YOUR EYES!
YES!! AFTER WATCHING A ROMANTIC MOVIE...
...THE HAPPY COUPLE WILL SEAL THEIR BONDS OF LOVE AT AN OCEANSIDE PARK!
THEN, FOLLOWING A DELECTABLE LUNCH...
AND THEN... THE NIGHT CATCHES FIRE AT A HOTEL...*

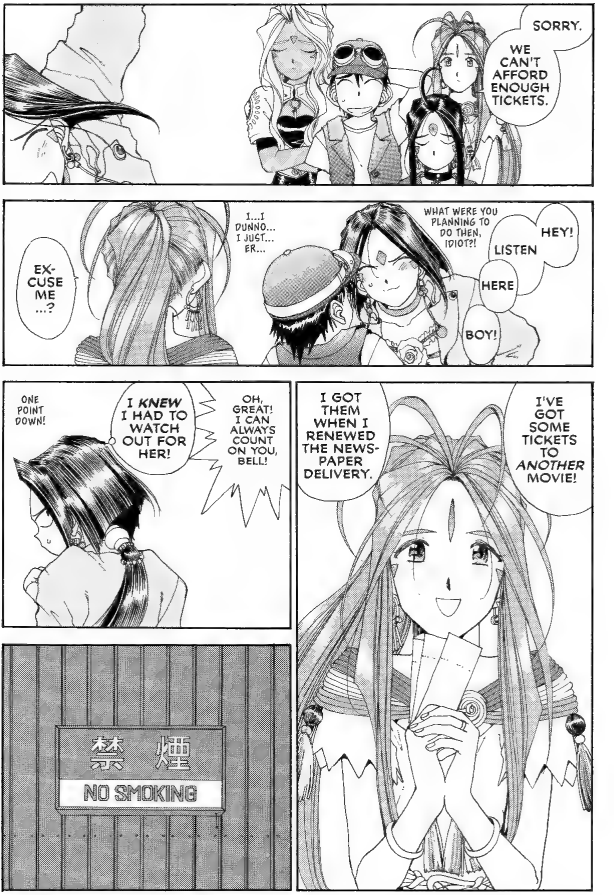
*She's been reading those *josei* manga too...

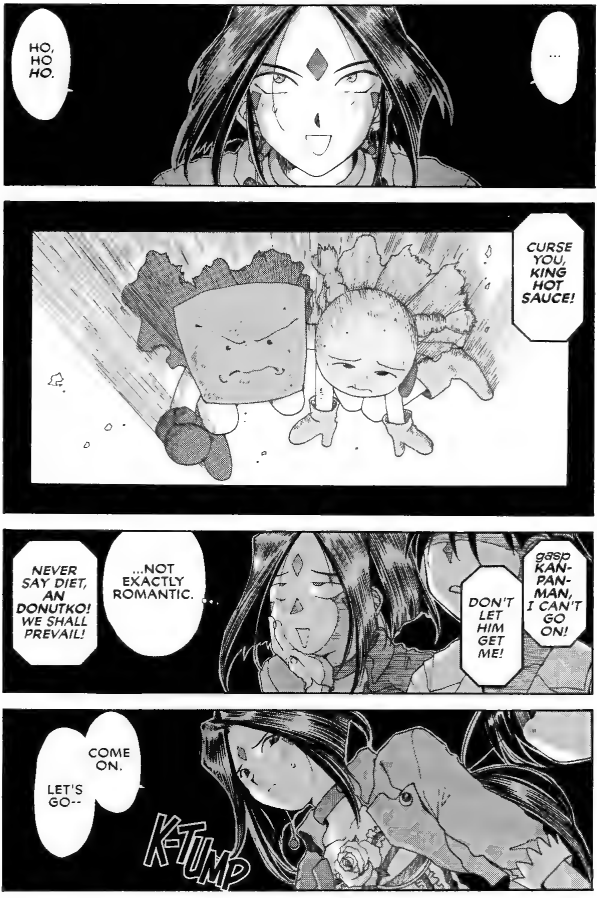
HO--
PEORTH? DID I KEEP YOU WAITING ...?
NOT A FREE MOMENT LEFT FOR HIM TO GET SECOND THOUGHTS!
BRIL-LIANT!
HOHOHOHOHO!
WHEN HE SAYS "DID I KEEP YOU WAITING," I SAY...
UM... LET ME SEE...
HE... HE'S HERE!
"OH, NO! NOT AT ALL!!"
huh?

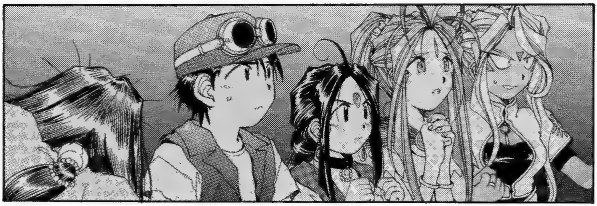
UM...
...HEY.
WHA-
WHA-
WHAT...
WHA...

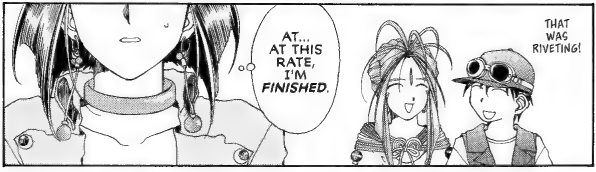

S... SORRY! THINGS SORTA... y'know... HAPPENED.
WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS?!
IF YOU LOSE YOUR TEMPER NOW, YOU LOSE EVERY-THING.
...CON-TROL.
C-C-C...
GOOD-NESS! I HOPE WE CAN ALL BE FRIENDS!
THIS ONE IS DANGER-OUS.
THESE TWO ARE NO BOTHER.
I WON'T LET KEIICHI LAY A FINGER ON MY BIG SISTER!
HMM... THIS SHOULD GET INTEREST-ING.
THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT.

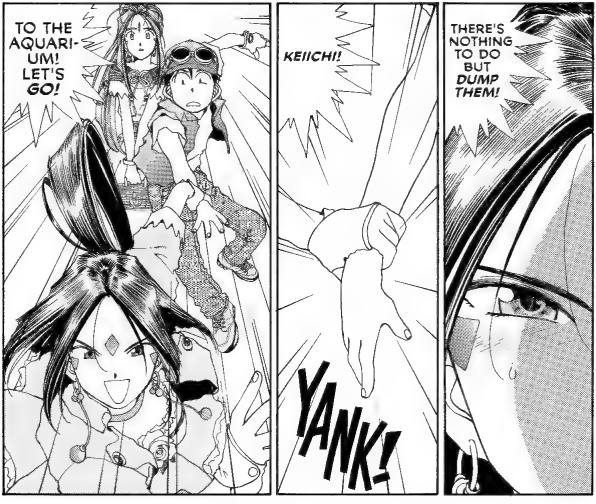
SO, uh... WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
LEAVE THAT TO ME!
I COME ARMED WITH A DETAILED PLAN.
OH?
AH...ON EARTH WE CALL THIS A...UM... A "GROUP DATE."
YOU DO ...?
HO HO HO! OF COURSE I KNOW THAT!!
AH!
I'M SURE I SAW THAT TERM SOME-WHERE...
...WITH--
A TRUE DATE STARTS...
--THE DATE MOVIE !!
THE LAST KUMBA
ラストルンバ
NEKOMI CINEMA


SORRY.
WE CAN'T AFFORD ENOUGH TICKETS.
EX-CUSE ME ...?
I...I DUNNO... I JUST... ER...
WHAT WERE YOU PLANNING TO DO THEN, IDIOT?!
HEY!
LISTEN
HERE
BOY!
ONE POINT DOWN!
I *KNEW* I HAD TO WATCH OUT FOR HER!
OH, GREAT! I CAN ALWAYS COUNT ON YOU, BELL!
I GOT THEM WHEN I RENEWED THE NEWS-PAPER DELIVERY.
I'VE GOT SOME TICKETS TO *ANOTHER* MOVIE!
禁 煙
NO SMOKING

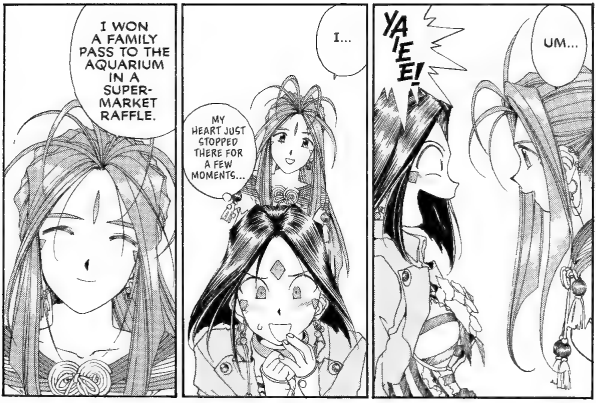

HO, HO HO.
...
CURSE YOU, KING HOT SAUCE!
NEVER SAY DIET, AN DONUTKO! WE SHALL PREVAIL!
...NOT EXACTLY ROMANTIC. ...
DON'T LET HIM GET ME!
gasp KAN-PAN-MAN, I CAN'T GO ON!
COME ON.
LET'S GO--
K-TUMP

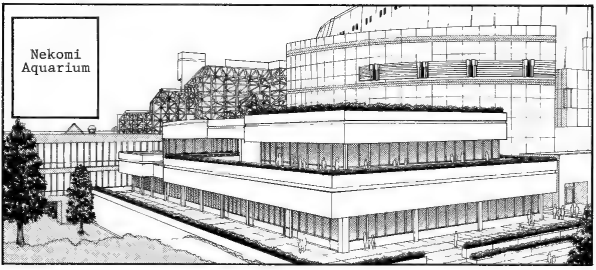


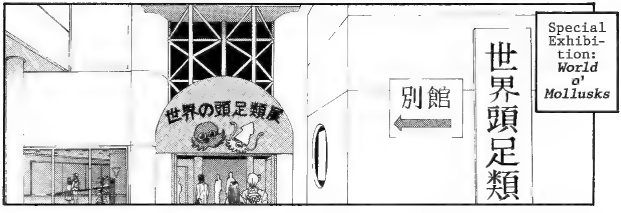

AT... AT THIS RATE, I'M FINISHED.
THAT WAS RIVETING!


TO THE AQUARIUM! LET'S GO!
KEIICHI!
YANK!
THERE'S NOTHING TO DO BUT DUMP THEM!

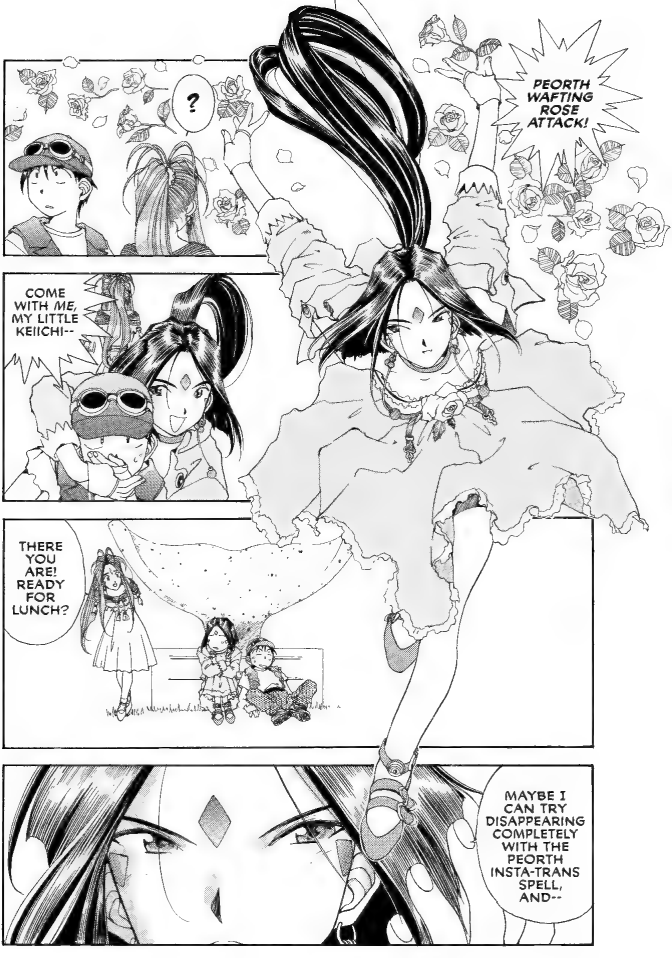
WHOA! W-WAIT!
HEY!
IF WE RUN, BELLDANDY AND EVERY-BODY...
THEY'LL GET LEFT...!
HAHH
HAHH
HAHH
HA! I BET THAT GOT RID OF THEM...
HA
HA


I WON A FAMILY PASS TO THE AQUARIUM IN A SUPER-MARKET RAFFLE.
I...
MY HEART JUST STOPPED THERE FOR A FEW MOMENTS...
YA E E!
UM...


Nekomi Aquarium


Special Exhibition: World o' Mollusks
世界頭足類
別館
世界の頭足類展

...WHAT...
WH
THIS ONE'S CALLED A NAUTILUS
OOH! THAT IMPUDENT JUXTAPOSITION OF HARD AND SOFT!
...YOU GUYS AREN'T CUTE AT ALL!
I CAN'T WASTE ANY MORE TIME WITH THESE PEOPLE...
...I'VE GOT TO GET RID OF THEM SOME-HOW!

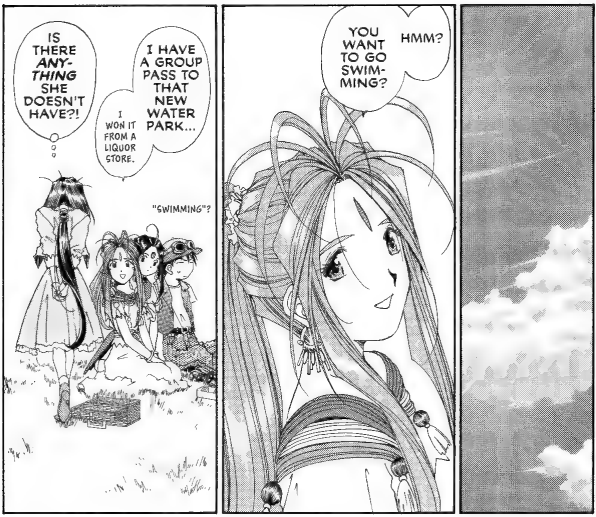

?
PEORTH WAFTING ROSE ATTACK!
COME WITH ME, MY LITTLE KEIICHI--
THERE YOU ARE! READY FOR LUNCH?
MAYBE I CAN TRY DISAPPEARING COMPLETELY WITH THE PEORTH INSTA-TRANS SPELL, AND--

HEY.
REALLY. JUST GIVE IT UP.
YOU'RE TRYING TO GIVE US THE SLIP SO YOU CAN BE ALONE WITH HIM, RIGHT?
!
THAT'S COOL. I UNDER-STAND.
BUT I'M TELLING YOU. IT'S NOT GOING TO WORK.
IN A CROWD OF A HUNDRED MILLION PEOPLE...
OR ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE EARTH...
...SHE'LL STILL FIND KEIICHI.

THAT'S THE KIND OF GIRL SHE IS.
THAT'S MY SISTER.
...
WELL, THEN... IF THAT'S HOW IT IS... I'VE GOT A FEW IDEAS OF MY OWN.
I SEE...
...ALL RIGHT.

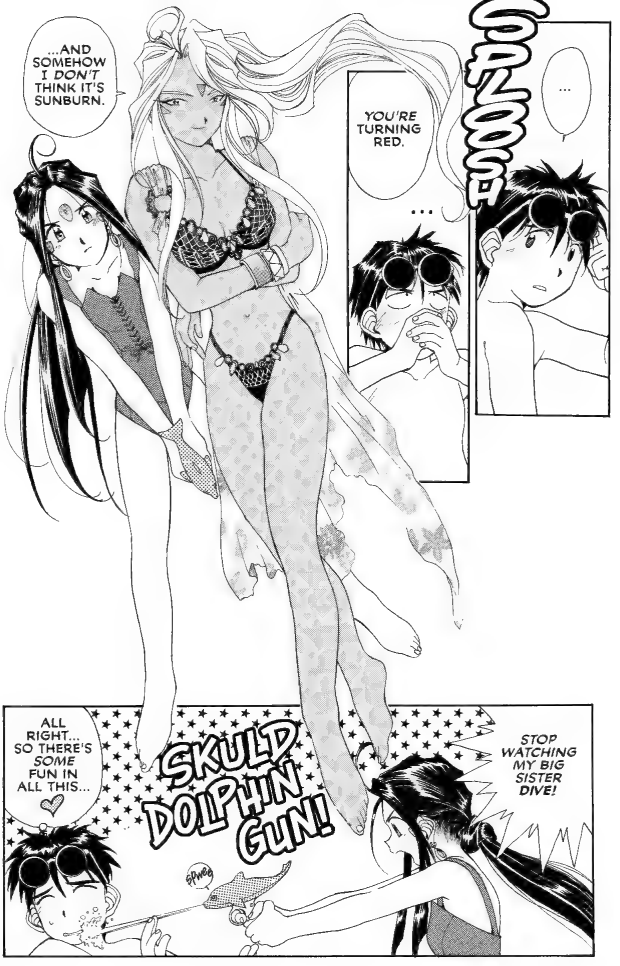
SWAL-
LOWED
IT HOOK,
LINE,
AND
SINKER.
HEH,
HEH.

I JUST
DON'T WANT
YOU DOING
THINGS
WHERE I
CAN'T
KEEP AN *EYE*
ON YOU,
PEORTH.
NOT
WHEN I'M
HAVING
THIS
MUCH
FUN.


IS
THERE
*ANY-
THING*
SHE
DOESN'T
HAVE?!
I
WON IT
FROM A
LIQUOR
STORE.
I HAVE
A GROUP
PASS TO
THAT
NEW
WATER
PARK...
"SWIMMING"?
YOU
WANT
TO GO
SWIM-
MING?
HMM?

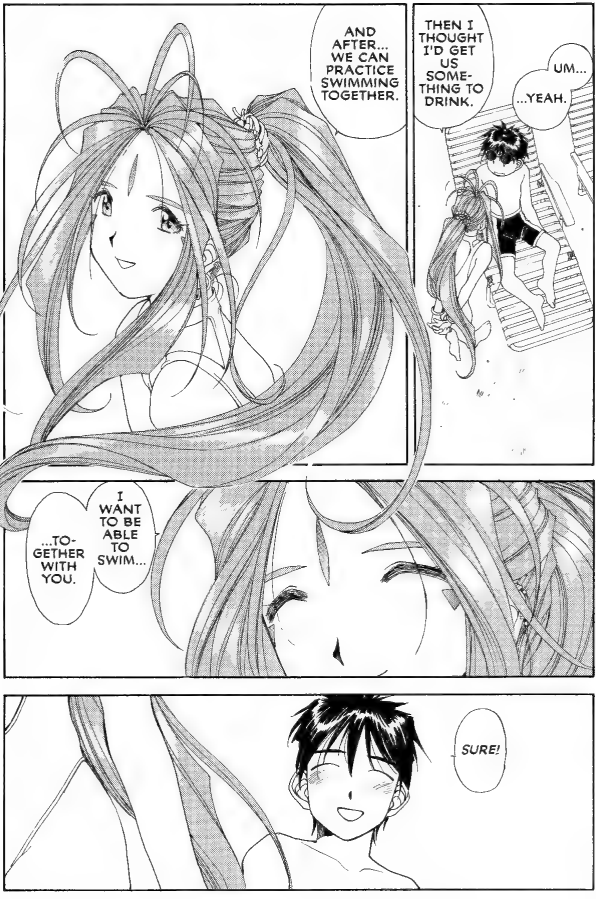
I'M BEGGING YOU... CHANGE ME BACK.
WHY? IT LOOKS GOOD ON YOU.
Poof
WELL...
UH...I, um, DIDN'T BRING MY BATHING SUIT...
IF THAT'S THE PROB-LEM...
...I'LL JUST...
NO! WAIT--
SHEESH...
Mild Blue Nekomi

KEIICHI ...!
I CAN'T EVEN SWIM. WHERE'S THE FUN IN ALL THIS?
WATCH ME DIVE!

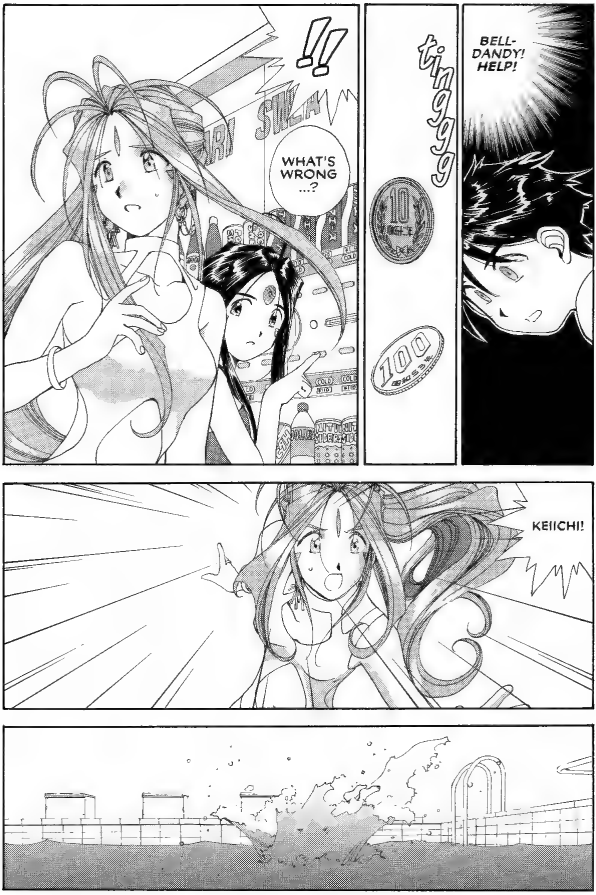

...AND SOMEHOW I DON'T THINK IT'S SUNBURN.
YOU'RE TURNING RED.
...
...
BLOOD
ALL RIGHT... SO THERE'S SOME FUN IN ALL THIS...
SKULD DOLPHIN GUN!
SPLOOG
STOP WATCHING MY BIG SISTER DIVE!

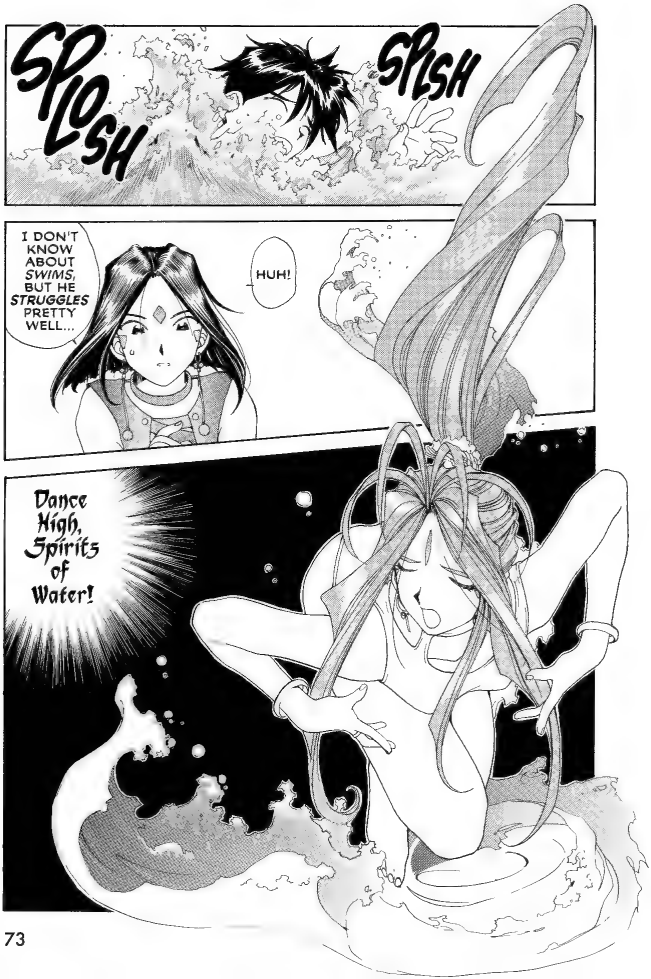
THAT'S ENOUGH, SKULD! CUT IT OUT!
HEH HEH...
SO...
...TIME TO GET READY.
IT SEEMS IT'S TRUE...
...KEIICHI CAN BARELY SWIM.
1. SO: I MAKE SURE KEIICHI FALLS IN.
HELLLP!
2. I SAVE HIM FROM DROWN-ING.

MOUTH TO MOUTH!!
3. I ADMINISTER THE...
AND THEN, WHEN HE OPENS HIS EYES...
FORGIVE ME, DARLING PEORTH-- I CRUELLY MISUNDERSTOOD YOU!
OH, KEIICHI! ❤
AH, MY DARLING!
SOON I SHALL LIBERATE YOU FROM YOUR SUFFERING...
KEIICHI ...?
...ARE YOU GOING TO STAY HERE A WHILE?

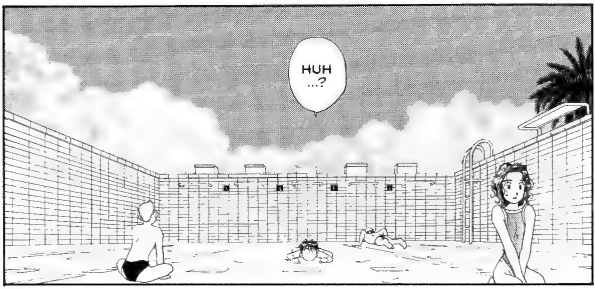

AND AFTER... WE CAN PRACTICE SWIMMING TOGETHER.
THEN I THOUGHT I'D GET US SOME-THING TO DRINK.
UM...
...YEAH.
I WANT TO BE ABLE TO SWIM...
...TO-GETHER WITH YOU.
SURE!

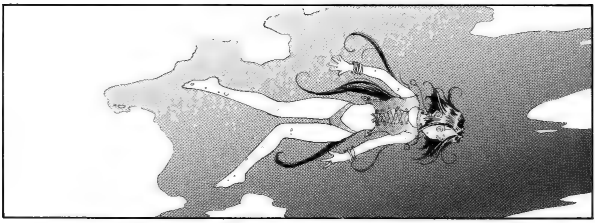
BIG SIS! WAIT UP--
NOW !!
?!
AIEE!
ACK ?!
SHAKK

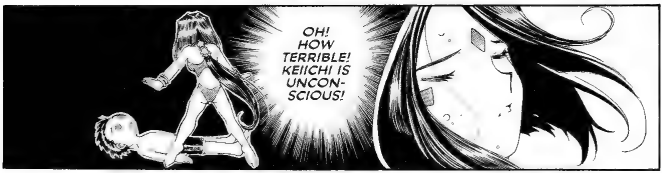

!!
WHAT'S WRONG ...?
tinggg
BELL-DANDY! HELP!
KEIICHI!


SPLOSH
SPLSH
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT *SWIMS*, BUT HE *STRUGGLES* PRETTY WELL...
HUH!
Dance High, Spirits of Water!

FLSSSH
um
shrrrp
WHBLOSH
KYA!

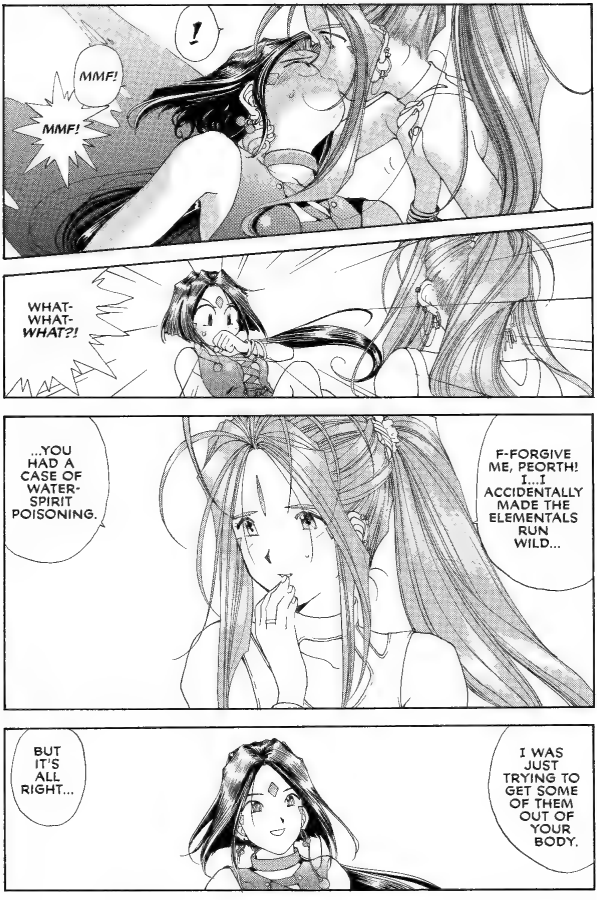

HUH ...?

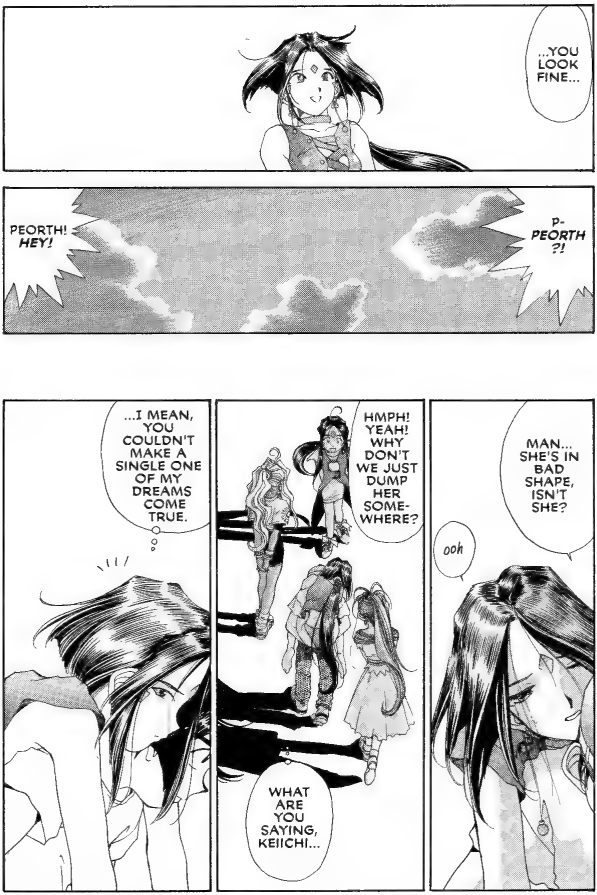



OH! HOW TERRIBLE! KEIICHI IS UNCON-SCIOUS!

I MUST ADMINISTER THE MOUTH-TO-MOUTH...

mmm
mm


!
MMF!
MMF!
WHAT-
WHAT-
WHAT?!
F-FORGIVE ME, PEORTH! I...I ACCIDENTALLY MADE THE ELEMENTALS RUN WILD...
...YOU HAD A CASE OF WATER-SPIRIT POISONING.
I WAS JUST TRYING TO GET SOME OF THEM OUT OF YOUR BODY.
BUT IT'S ALL RIGHT...


...YOU LOOK FINE...
P-PEORTH?!
PEORTH! HEY!
...I MEAN, YOU COULDN'T MAKE A SINGLE ONE OF MY DREAMS COME TRUE.
HMPH! YEAH! WHY DON'T WE JUST DUMP HER SOME-WHERE?
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, KEIICHI...
MAN... SHE'S IN BAD SHAPE, ISN'T SHE?
ooh

...BUT IF THIS COUNTS AS A WALK IN AN OCEAN-SIDE PARK...
...I GUESS IT'LL HAVE TO DO... FOR NOW.

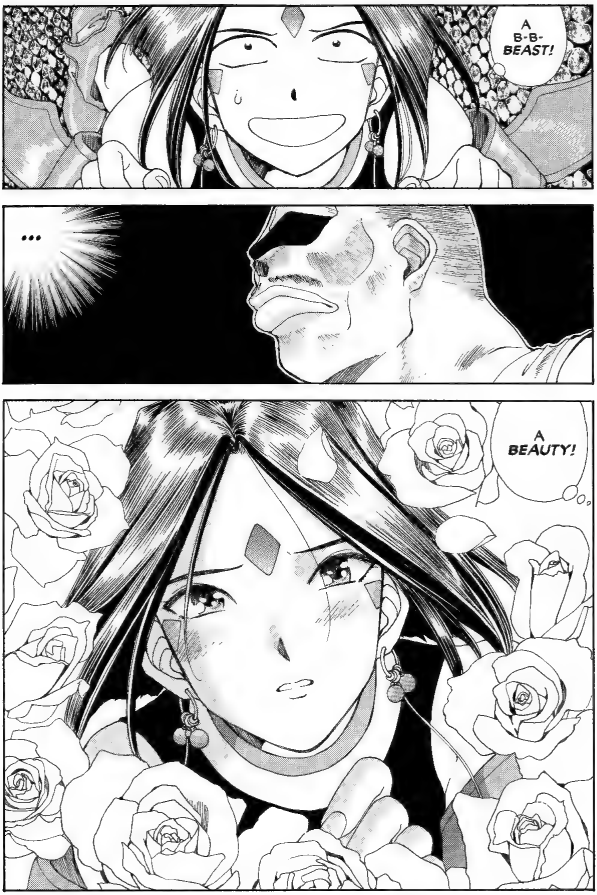
CHAPTER 70

When a Man Loves a Woman

MO...
RI...
SA...
TO!
I'M BRINGIN' YUH AN OFFICIAL NOTICE FROM DA *SUPREME EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE--*
...

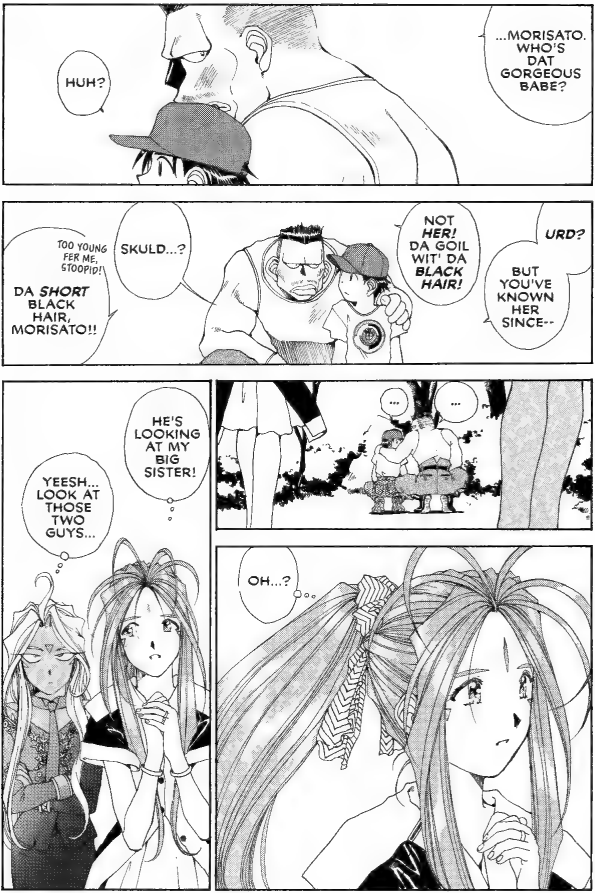
NO-BODY--?
WHAM
HEY! WORD FROM DA COUNCIL OF ELDERS, KNOW WHAT I'M SAYIN'? I CAME HERE ON MY OWN TWO FEETS!
DERE BETTER BE SOMEBODY HOME!
...
WELCOME HOME, KEIICHI DEAR!!

...HAS HE BEEN WORKING OUT...?
?
...

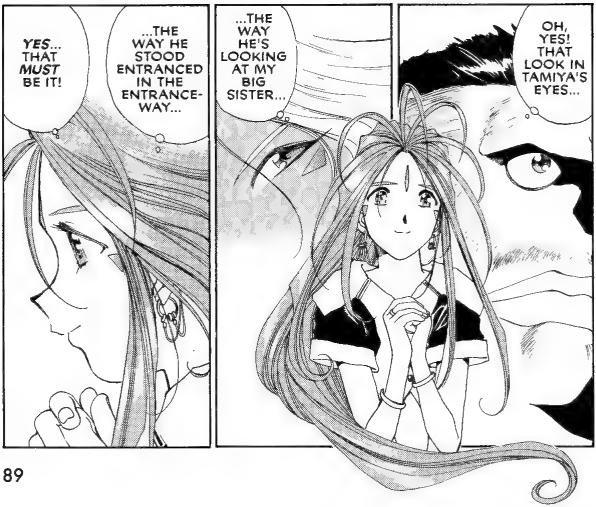

A B-B-BEAST!
...
A BEAUTY!

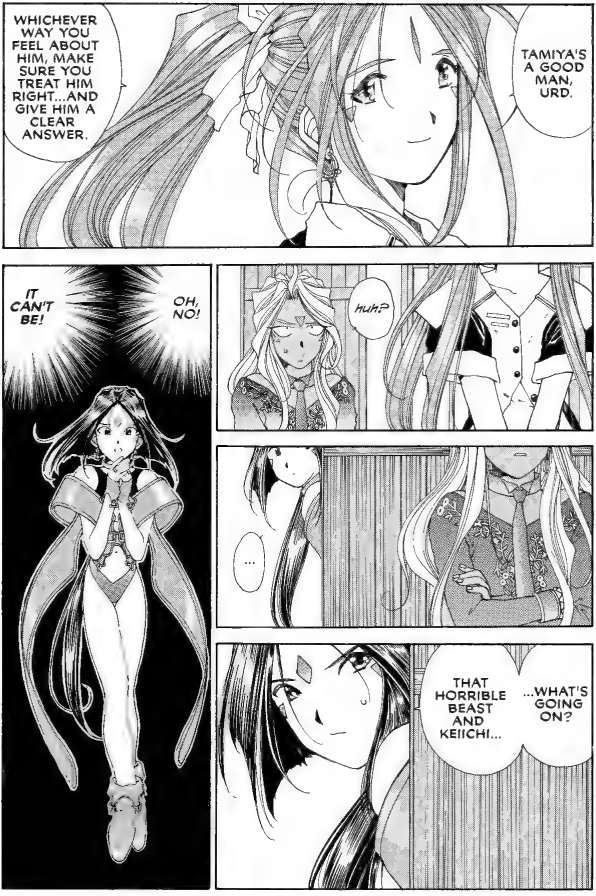
OH, IT'S YOU.
ENOUGH WITH THE RACKET...
EEK!
HELP ME--!
HEY, TAMIYA-KUN... LOOK AT THIS...
HOW YA DOIN'?
HEY, TAMIYA... BEEN A WHILE!
...?

...
oops
WE'RE BA--
N-NO! IT'S JUST THAT HE FROZE UP, AND...
AIEE! URD'S SEDUCING TAMIYA?!
I DIDN'T DO ANYTHING! I SWEAR!
uh
HEY...? TAMIYA...? WHAT DID URD DO TO YOU...?
YEGGIR! SORRY, SIR!
YOU COME WIT' ME NOW!!


HUH?
...MORISATO. WHO'S DAT GORGEOUS BABE?
TOO YOUNG FER ME, STOOPID!
DA SHORT BLACK HAIR, MORISATO!!
SKULD...?
NOT HER! DA GOIL WIT' DA BLACK HAIR!
URD?
BUT YOU'VE KNOWN HER SINCE--
HE'S LOOKING AT MY BIG SISTER!
YEESH... LOOK AT THOSE TWO GUYS...
...
...
OH...?

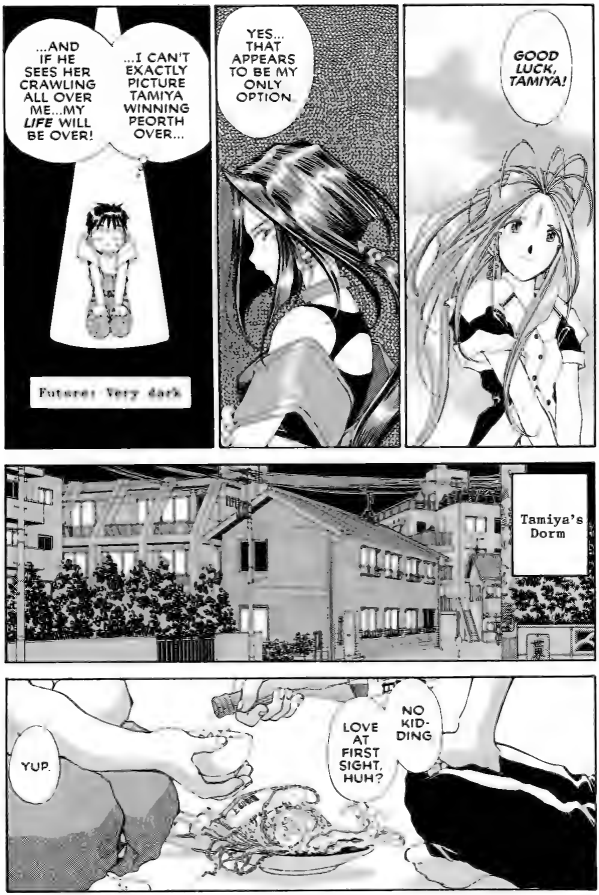
WAIT A SEC... YOU MEAN *PEORTH?*
DAT'S HER NAME? *PEORTH?!*
Toraichi Tamiya: A man in love for the first time in four years, six months, and ten days.
WHOA...


OH, YES! THAT LOOK IN TAMIYA'S EYES...
...THE WAY HE'S LOOKING AT MY BIG SISTER...
...THE WAY HE STOOD ENTRANCED IN THE ENTRANCE-WAY...
YES... THAT *MUST* BE IT!

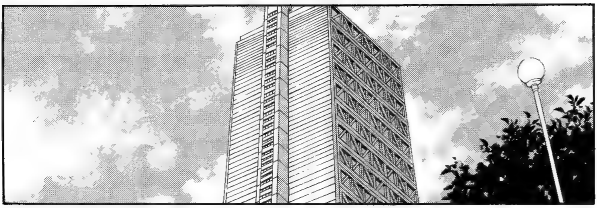

TAMIYA'S A GOOD MAN, URD.
WHICHEVER WAY YOU FEEL ABOUT HIM, MAKE SURE YOU TREAT HIM RIGHT...AND GIVE HIM A CLEAR ANSWER.
huh?
OH, NO!
IT CAN'T BE!
...
...WHAT'S GOING ON?
THAT HORRIBLE BEAST AND KEIICHI...

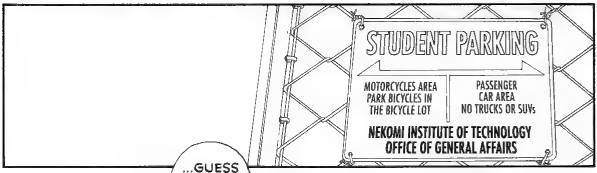
...THAT MAN DEPARTS THE SCENE.
I REALLY MUST MAKE SURE...
A MOST UNFORTUNATE DEVELOPMENT.
I CERTAINLY DO NOT NEED ANY MORE COMPETITION.
...YAOI ?!
KEIICHI-KUN...
TAMIYA-KUN...
A-AM I WITNESSING WHAT THE MANGA CALL...
HONDA
OKAY, MORISATO.
GUESS I GOTTA GET GOIN'.

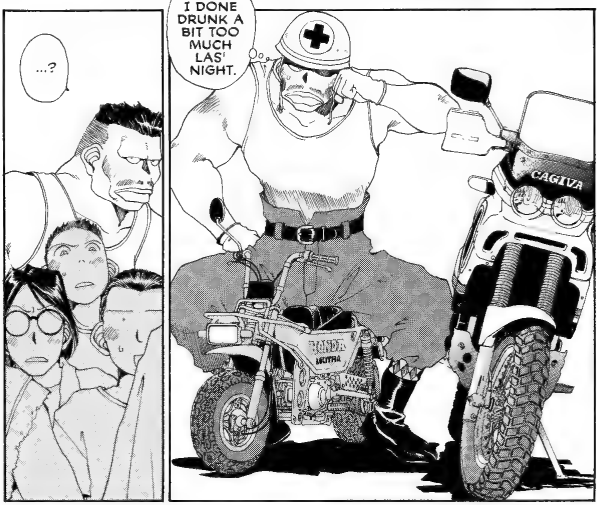
TAMIYA?
...CRAZY LOOK IN HIS EYES...
AS LONG AS YOU DON'T GIVE UP HOPE...
TOMOR-ROW, EVEN.
PLEASE, DO COME AGAIN.
...I'M SURE THERE'S A CHANCE OF SUCCESS.

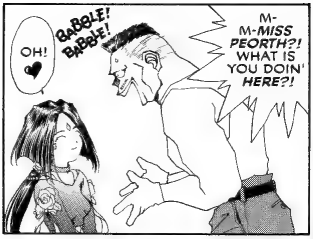

...AND IF HE SEES HER CRAWLING ALL OVER ME...MY LIFE WILL BE OVER!
...I CAN'T EXACTLY PICTURE TAMIYA WINNING PEORTH OVER...
Future: Very dark
YES... THAT APPEARS TO BE MY ONLY OPTION.
GOOD LUCK, TAMIYA!
Tamiya's Dorm
YUP.
LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT, HUH?
NO KIDDING

AND NOW, A SONG TO CELEBRATE THE BEGINNING OF TAMIYA'S GREAT LOVE--
--"A MAN ON STAGE"...!
I'M LAUGHING AND SO HAPPY I COULD DIE...♪
AWESOME! DEN-CHAN CAN REALLY SING THIS ONE!
GLPP GLPP
AH, YOU'LL DO GOOD, BRO. COUNT ON IT!
...
...YUP.
♪
♪
HUH? OH, DAT...? I'LL TELL 'IM TOMORROW.
A MAN ON ...
♪
SAY, BY THE WAY, TAMIYA... YOU WARN 'IM ABOUT THE MOTOR CLUB JUNKYARD?




STUDENT PARKING
MOTORCYCLES AREA
PARK BICYCLES IN
THE BICYCLE LOT
PASSENGER
CAR AREA
NO TRUCKS OR SUVs
NEKOMI INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
OFFICE OF GENERAL AFFAIRS


...GUESS I DONE DRUNK A BIT TOO MUCH LAS' NIGHT.
...?
CAGIVA
HONDA
MOTRA

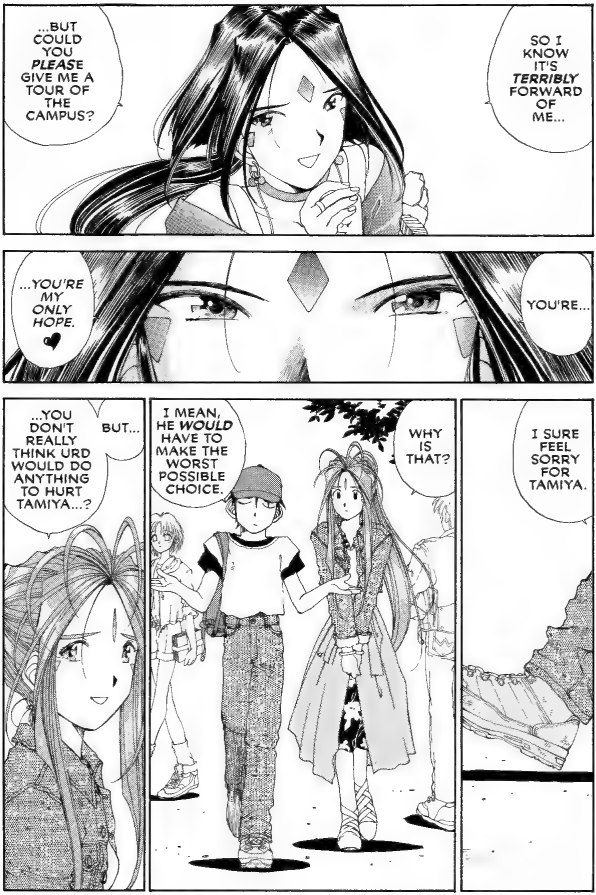

BABBLE! BABBLE!
M-M-MISS PEORTH?! WHAT IS YOU DOIN' HERE?!
OH!

AH...!

YOU REMEMBERED MY NAME...
...I'M SO HAPPY!

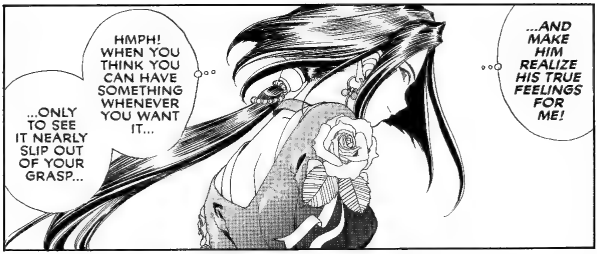
I'M SO HAPPY!

ACTUALLY, I'VE ONLY BEEN LIVING HERE IN TOWN A LITTLE WHILE...
...AND I WANT TO LEARN MY WAY AROUND...
...BUT I GET LOST SO EASILY...

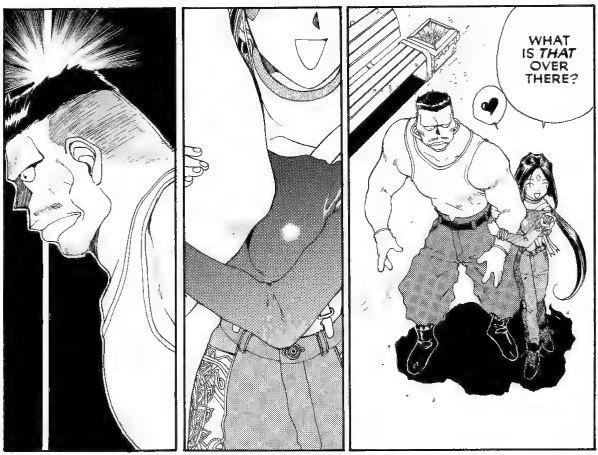

...BUT COULD YOU *PLEASE* GIVE ME A TOUR OF THE CAMPUS?
SO I KNOW IT'S *TERRIBLY* FORWARD OF ME...
...YOU'RE MY *ONLY* HOPE.
YOU'RE...
...YOU DON'T REALLY THINK URD WOULD DO ANYTHING TO HURT TAMIYA...?
BUT...
I MEAN, HE *WOULD* HAVE TO MAKE THE WORST POSSIBLE CHOICE.
WHY IS THAT?
I SURE FEEL SORRY FOR TAMIYA.

HE'S OVER THERE!
YOU GOTTA SEE THIS!
EH?!
HUH?
TAMIYA'S IN LOVE WITH PEORTH.
STOMP STOMP
!!
OH, SIR!
LOOK...!
HASEGAWA?! WHAT'S GOING ON?!
!!

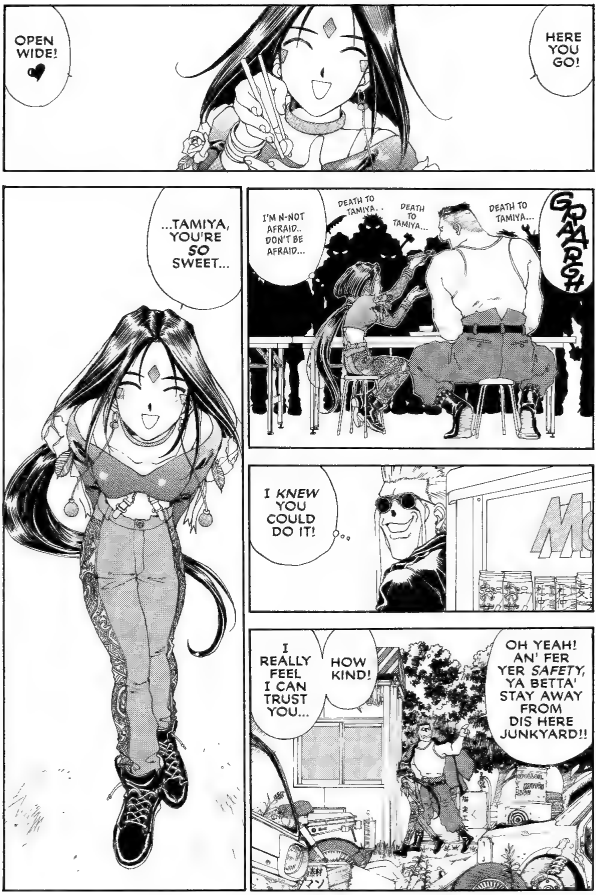
I DON'T BELIEVE IT-- A REAL, LIVE BEAUTY AND THE BEAST!
AN' DAT'S DA RESEARCH LAB BUILDIN'...
B...BUT... WHY WOULD PEORTH...
CHECK IT OUT, MAN! TAMIYA'S WALKING AND CHEWING GUM AT THE SAME TIME!
AH, KEIICHI! PERFECT!
AND BELLDANDY...
NOW TO HAVE KEIICHI STUMBLE ONTO US TOGETHER...
HIS AFFAIRE D'AMOUR WITH KEIICHI IS OVER!
...THIS MAN IS COMPLETE-LY IN MY POWER NOW.

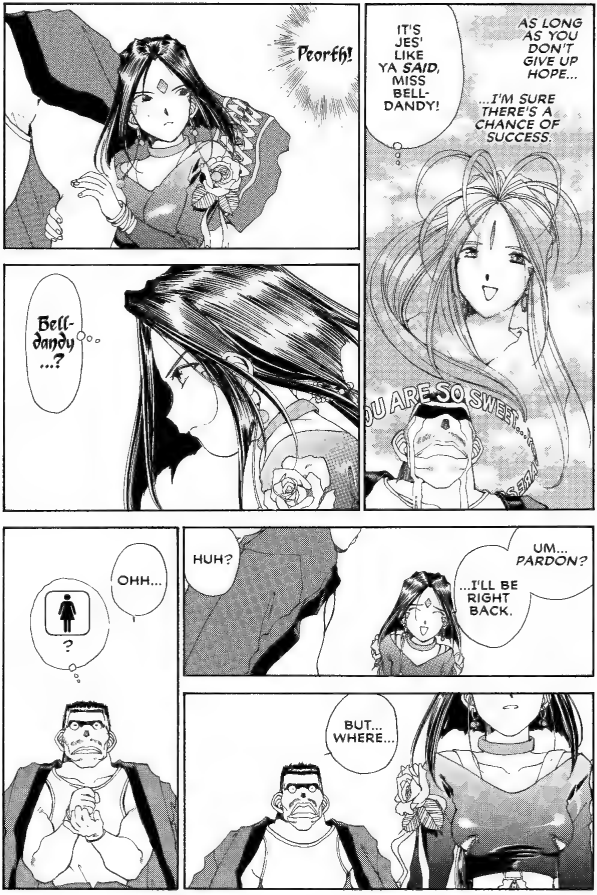

...ONLY TO SEE IT NEARLY SLIP OUT OF YOUR GRASP...
HMPH! WHEN YOU THINK YOU CAN HAVE SOMETHING WHENEVER YOU WANT IT...
...AND MAKE HIM REALIZE HIS TRUE FEELINGS FOR ME!

YES?!
Y--
OH, MISTER TAMIYA?


WHAT IS THAT OVER THERE?

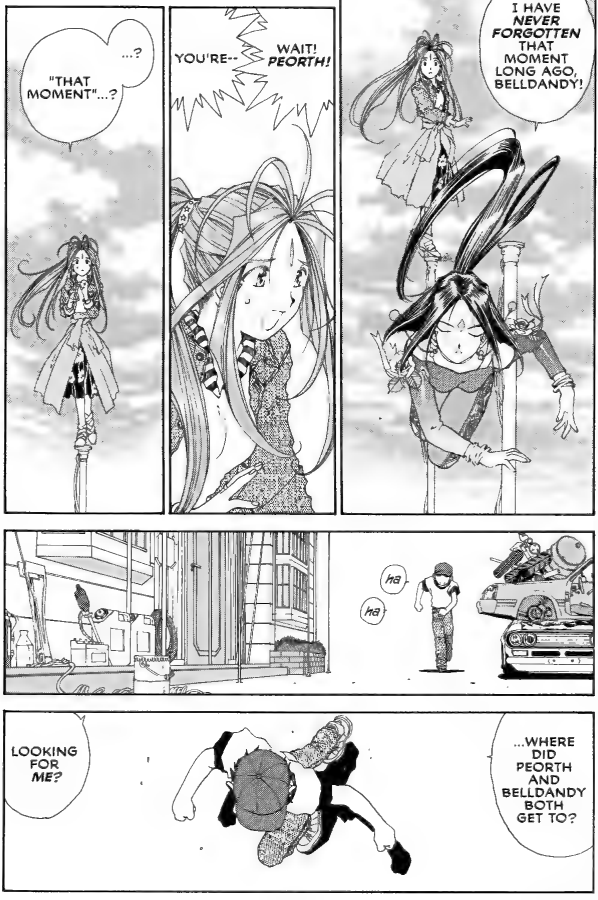
At the age of twenty-three years and six months... has had his soul touched for the first time.
Toraichi Tamiya:
?
...it was the bitterest moment thus far in their short lives.
...THIS JUST AIN'T FAIR.
LET'S GET BACK TO THE LAB...
50
But for the rest...

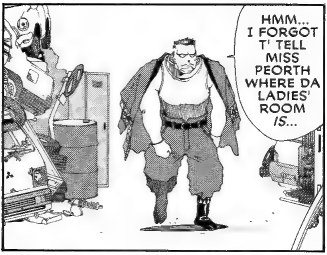

OPEN WIDE!
HERE YOU GO!
...TAMIYA, YOU'RE SO SWEET...
I'M N-NOT AFRAID.. DON'T BE AFRAID...
DEATH TO TAMIYA...
DEATH TO TAMIYA...
DEATH TO TAMIYA...
GRASH
I KNEW YOU COULD DO IT!
I REALLY FEEL I CAN TRUST YOU...
HOW KIND!
OH YEAH! AN' FER YER SAFETY, YA BETTA' STAY AWAY FROM DIS HERE JUNKYARD!!


Peorth!
IT'S JES' LIKE YA SAID, MISS BELL-DANDY!
AS LONG AS YOU DON'T GIVE UP HOPE...
...I'M SURE THERE'S A CHANCE OF SUCCESS.
Bell-dandy ...?
OHH...
?
HUH?
UM... PARDON?
...I'LL BE RIGHT BACK.
BUT... WHERE...

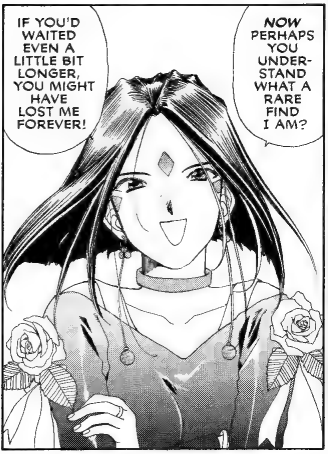
WELL? WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?
I NEVER WOULD HAVE...
OH, DEAR... IF I'D KNOWN HE WAS ATTRACTED TO *PEORTH*...
I'M RATHER *BUSY* RIGHT NOW...
...IN FACT, I--
CAN'T YOU SEE HE'S TOTALLY INFATUATED WITH--
PEORTH!
PLEASE... IF YOU AREN'T SERIOUS ABOUT TAMIYA... THEN DON'T TOY WITH HIM ANYMORE.

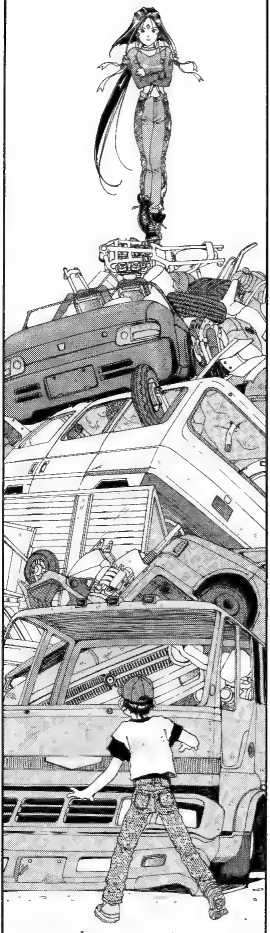
IF TAMIYA IS THAT SERIOUS ABOUT HIS FEELINGS FOR KEIICHI, THEN...
WHAT?! I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'RE SAYING THIS!!
DON'T YOU CARE WHAT HAPPENS TO KEIICHI?!
...HOW CAN YOU JUST SHUT YOUR EYES TO IT?!
YOU KNOW... YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED A BIT.
...I SHALL PROTECT KEIICHI MYSELF.
ENOUGH OF THIS...
WH... WHAT...?


I HAVE NEVER FORGOTTEN THAT MOMENT LONG AGO, BELLDANDY!
WAIT! PEORTH!
YOU'RE--
...?
"THAT MOMENT"...?
ha
ha
...WHERE DID PEORTH AND BELLDANDY BOTH GET TO?
LOOKING FOR ME?


HMM... I FORGOT T' TELL MISS PEORTH WHERE DA LADIES' ROOM *IS*...

...SO, YOU CAME SEARCHING FOR ME AFTER ALL.


IF YOU'D WAITED EVEN A LITTLE BIT LONGER, YOU MIGHT HAVE LOST ME FOREVER!
NOW PERHAPS YOU UNDER-STAND WHAT A RARE FIND I AM?



chank!
HEY! ARE YOU LISTENING TO M--
ER, PEORTH... YOU'D BETTER BE CAREFUL UP THERE. IT LOOKS--
BUT NOW THAT YOU'VE SEEN THE LIGHT...

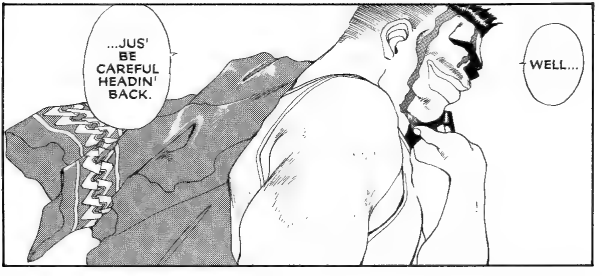
hhng...
...OOF!
OH, KEIICHI!!
WHH... WHAT WERE YOU DOING?!
...Y-YOU COULD HAVE FLOWN DOWN!!
I KNEW YOU LOVED ME--
YAA!
KANG
UM...
KREEK KREEK

THIS TIME I SHALL HELP YOU!
HEY! ARE YOU AIMING THEM AT US?!
NO! IT'S KEIICHI WHO KEEPS GETTING IN THEIR WAY!
WHDD
WHANG
FWDD
AIEE!
CAN'T--

WHOO
?!

T-TAMIYA-SAN?!
B-BOSS?
...MIZZ PEORTH?
KREEK KREEK
ARE... ARE YUH OKAY...
...I'M F-FINE.
AH... Y-YES.

DAT'S GREAT!
GOOD!


...JUS' BE CAREFUL HEADIN' BACK.
WELL...

FOR A MOMENT...

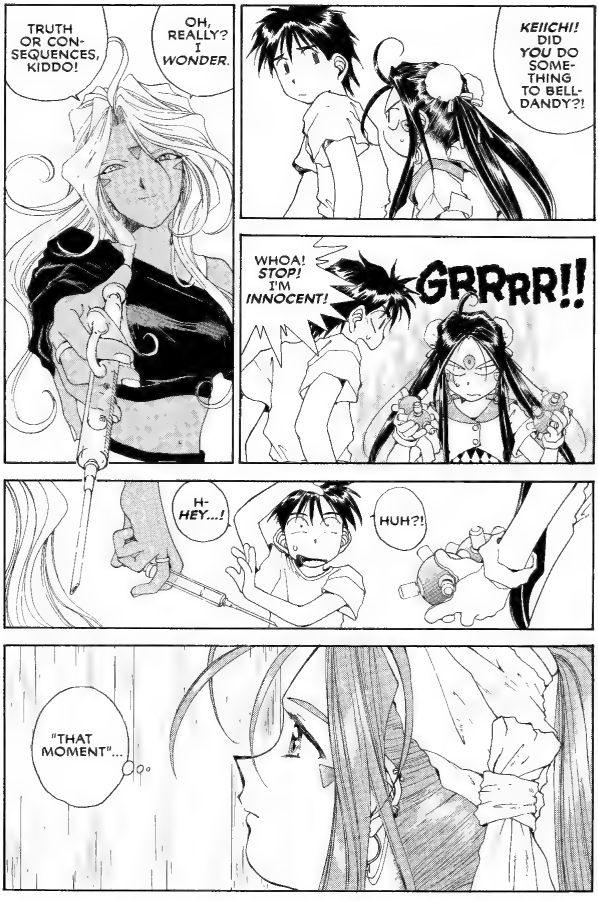
...I FEEL I CAUGHT A GLIMPSE O' HEAVEN.

EH...?
TAMIYA REALLY WAS IN LOVE WITH YOU, PEORTH.
NOT *YOU*...?!
WITH *ME*...?!
I... I DON'T REMEMBER AT *ALL!*
...?
"MOMENT"...?
YET OVER HERE... THERE'S ANOTHER TROUBLED SOUL...
AHH, *YOUTH*-- THE PLEA-SURE, THE PAIN... IT'S ALL THERE.
YOU IS GONNA PAY FER DIS *TOMORRA*, BOY!
DAMN IT! WHY DOES DAT ROTTEN MORISATO GET ALL DA BABES?!
NNARNGH!

CHAPTER 71

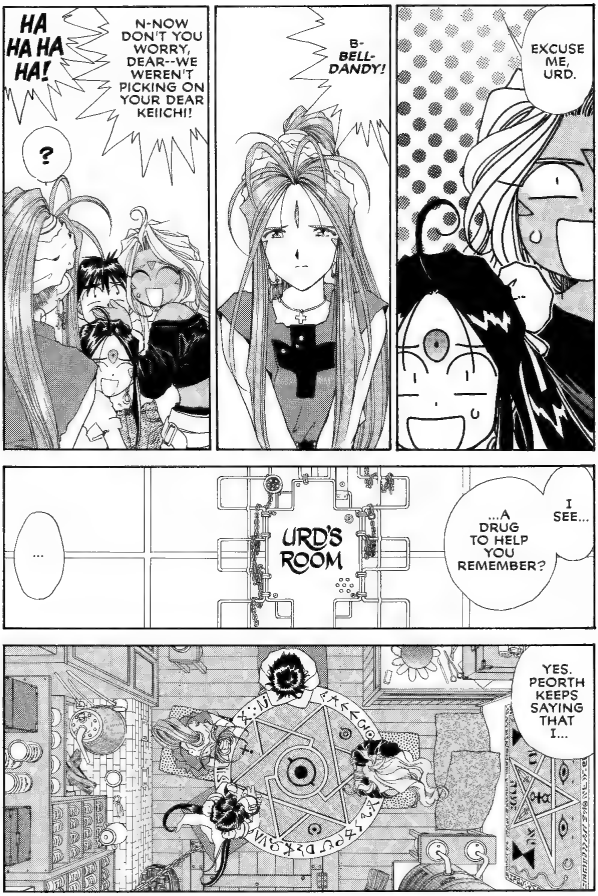
Meeting a Goddess's Troubles Halfway

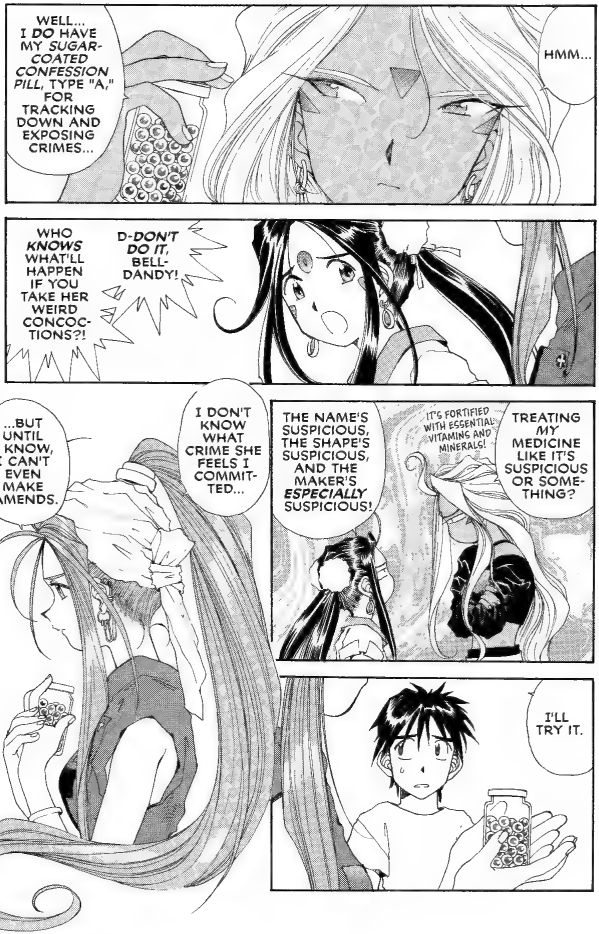
SHE'S BEEN LIKE THAT EVER SINCE WE GOT HOME.
...
OH, WHATEVER COULD HAVE HAPPENED TO MY DEAR, SWEET BIG SISTER?!


TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES, KIDDO!
OH, REALLY? I *WONDER*.
KEIICHI! DID *YOU* DO SOMETHING TO BELLDANDY?!
WHOA! *STOP!* I'M *INNOCENT!*
GRRRR!!
H-*HEY...!*
HUH?!
"THAT MOMENT"...

...SO LONG AGO, BELL-DANDY!
I HAVE NEVER FORGOTTEN THAT MOMENT...
COULD I REALLY HAVE...
I JUST CAN'T REMEMBER!
THAT MOMENT... WHAT WAS IT?
...HURT PEORTH SO DEEPLY, WITHOUT EVEN KNOW-ING IT?

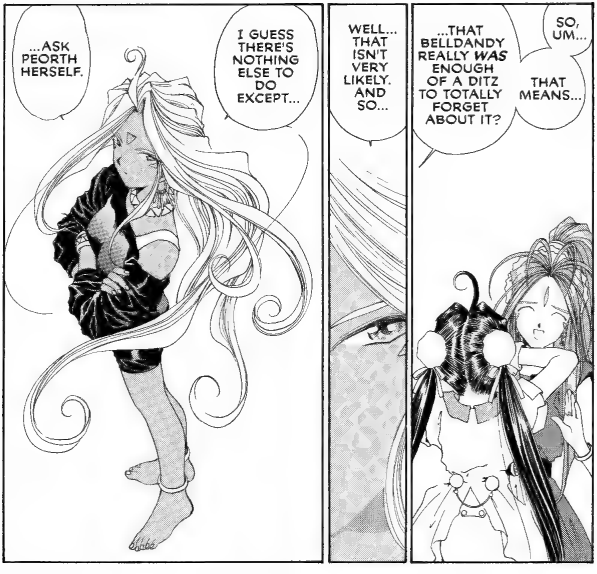
THIS TIME, I *HAVE* TO KNOW.
WHAT DID I DO?
:wheeze:
:gasp:
OH, *YEAH?* WELL, I--
...HE WOULDN'T HAVE THE *GUTS* TO TRY ANY-THING.
RIGHT. WE *ARE* TALKING ABOUT *KEIICHI*, HERE...
SILLY BOY! WE WERE ONLY *JOKING! RIGHT*, SKULD?


HA HA HA HA!
N-NOW DON'T YOU WORRY, DEAR--WE WEREN'T PICKING ON YOUR DEAR KEIICHI!
?
B-BELL-DANDY!
EXCUSE ME, URD.
...
URD'S ROOM
...
...A DRUG TO HELP YOU REMEMBER?
I SEE...
YES. PEORTH KEEPS SAYING THAT I...

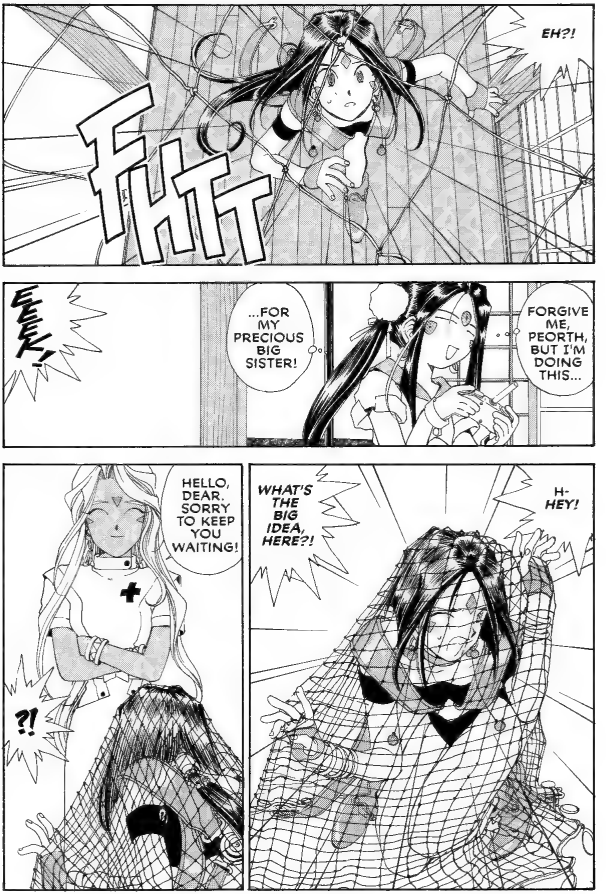

WELL... I DO HAVE MY SUGAR-COATED CONFESSION PILL, TYPE "A," FOR TRACKING DOWN AND EXPOSING CRIMES...
HMM...
WHO KNOWS WHAT'LL HAPPEN IF YOU TAKE HER WEIRD CONCOCTIONS?!
D-DON'T DO IT, BELL-DANDY!
THE NAME'S SUSPICIOUS, THE SHAPE'S SUSPICIOUS, AND THE MAKER'S ESPECIALLY SUSPICIOUS!
IT'S FORTIFIED WITH ESSENTIAL VITAMINS AND MINERALS!
TREATING MY MEDICINE LIKE IT'S SUSPICIOUS OR SOMETHING?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT CRIME SHE FEELS I COMMITTED...
...BUT UNTIL I KNOW, I CAN'T EVEN MAKE AMENDS.
I'LL TRY IT.

I DON'T FEEL...
...ANY-THING.
Ten Minutes Later
GRRR
WHAT A RELIEF! IT DOESN'T WORK!
GULP
FLICK
SKULD, LOOK! A UFO!
HUH?

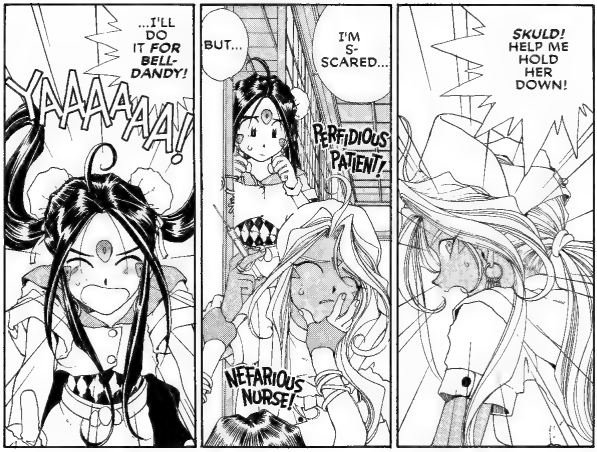
I CONFESS! IT WAS ME!
SATISFAC-TION GUARAN-TEED!
SEE?
DOESN'T WORK, HUH?
AND I'M THE ONE THAT SPILLED TEA ON HIS REPORT!
I'M SORRY, I'M SORRY!! I'M THE ONE WHO STOLE THE MOTHER-BOARD OUT OF KEIICHI'S COMPUTER!


...ASK PEORTH HERSELF.
I GUESS THERE'S NOTHING ELSE TO DO EXCEPT...
WELL... THAT ISN'T VERY LIKELY. AND SO...
...THAT BELLDANDY REALLY WAS ENOUGH OF A DITZ TO TOTALLY FORGET ABOUT IT?
SO, UM...
THAT MEANS...

OOH, HOW SHALL I SERVE MY DEAR KEIICHI TODAY?!
THE BATH AGAIN? OH, DEFI-NITELY!
♥
MMM
MMM
BOMF
!!


EH?!
FHTT
EEEK!
...FOR MY PRECIOUS BIG SISTER!
FORGIVE ME, PEORTH, BUT I'M DOING THIS...
HELLO, DEAR. SORRY TO KEEP YOU WAITING!
?!
WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA, HERE?!
H-HEY!

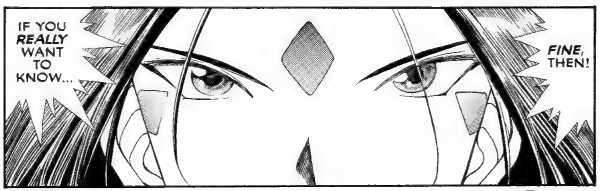
IT'S TIME FOR YOUR MEDS!
WHA... WHA... WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
THERE, THERE, DEARIE-- JUST A LITTLE PINCH...!
STOP IT! STOP IT, YOU...YOU MEDICINEFET ISHINJECTION MANIACFREAK!


...I'LL DO IT FOR BELL-DANDY!
YAAAAAA!
BUT...
I'M S-SCARED...
PERFIDIOUS PATIENT!
NEFARIOUS NURSE!
SKULD! HELP ME HOLD HER DOWN!

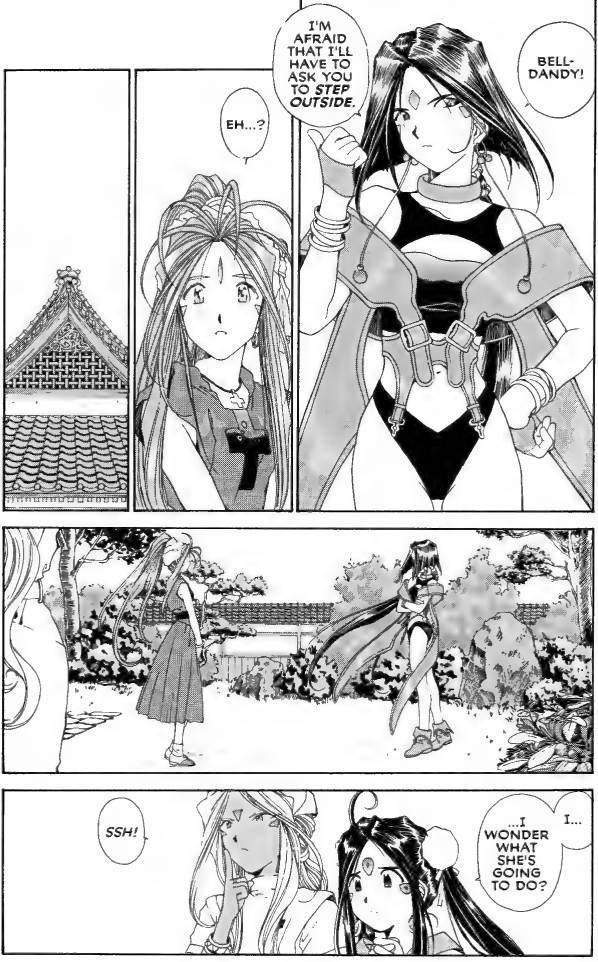
POIT

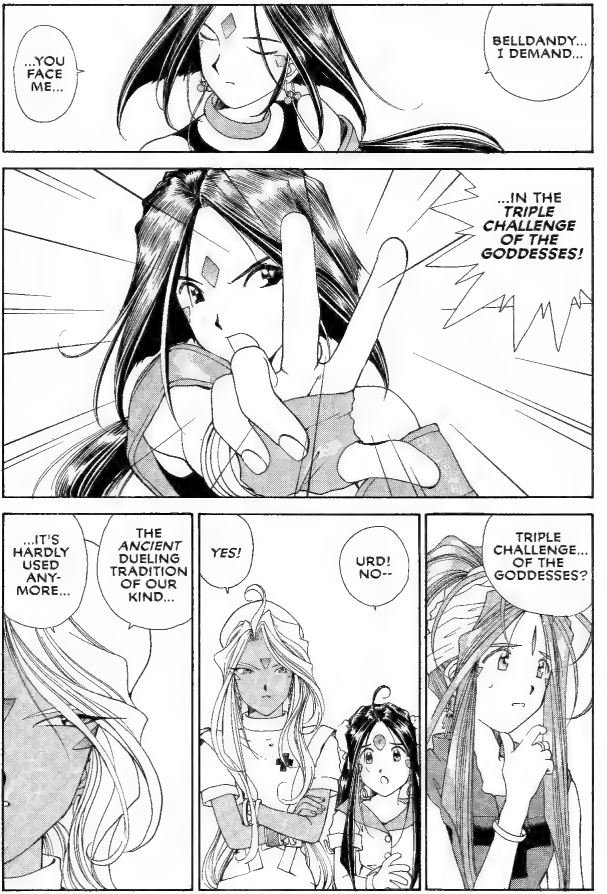
T... TRUTH SERUM...?
BETTER GIVE HER THE ANTIDOTE!!
AND... AND...
POIT
PSSSHHH
AH... AH...
I TOOK THE MOTOR OUT OF THE ELECTRIC PENCIL SHARPENER!
...I'VE GOT MORE TO CONFESS! I ATE KEIICHI'S ICE CREAM!
oops
AH, HA.
NOW I SEE.
...BELLDANDY REALLY HAS FORGOTTEN-- HASN'T SHE?
I DIDN'T WANT TO BELIEVE IT, BUT...

BOY!! SHE'S SOME PIECE OF WORK!
USING SUCH CHEAP, DIRTY TRICKS TO DRAG IT OUT OF ME!
OOH! HOW DARE YOU!


IF YOU REALLY WANT TO KNOW...
FINE, THEN!

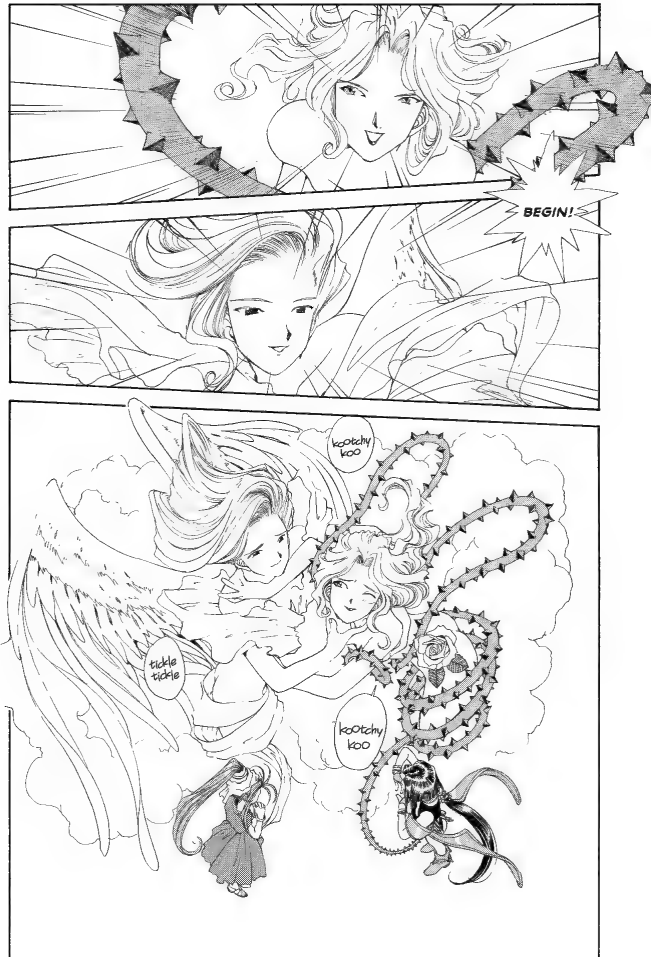
WHAMM
STOMP
STOMP STOMP
Chicken Egg Room


I'M AFRAID THAT I'LL HAVE TO ASK YOU TO STEP OUTSIDE.
BELL-DANDY!
EH...?
SSH!
...I WONDER WHAT SHE'S GOING TO DO?
I...

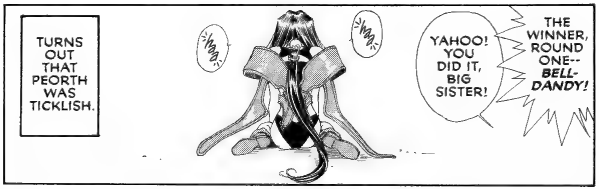

BELLDANDY... I DEMAND...
...YOU FACE ME...
...IN THE *TRIPLE CHALLENGE OF THE GODDESSES!*
TRIPLE CHALLENGE... OF THE GODDESSES?
URD! NO--
YES!
THE *ANCIENT* DUELING TRADITION OF OUR KIND...
...IT'S HARDLY USED ANY-MORE...

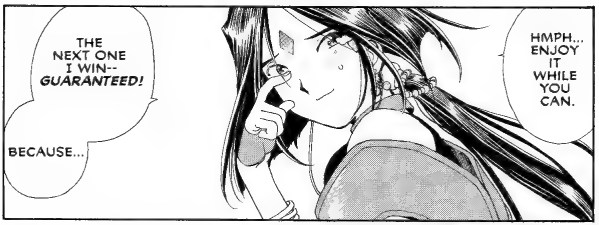
NOW, SHOULD YOU WIN...
...I WILL TELL YOU WHAT IT WAS YOU DID TO ME.
AND IF I SHOULD WIN...
...WHAT THEN? HMM... LET ME SEE...
...SHALL I MAKE YOU MY SERVANT, PERHAPS?
HMPH! DON'T BE SILLY! MY BIG SISTER WOULD NEVER AGREE TO A BET LIKE THAT!
YOU THINK...?
...
VERY WELL, PEORTH.
I ACCEPT.

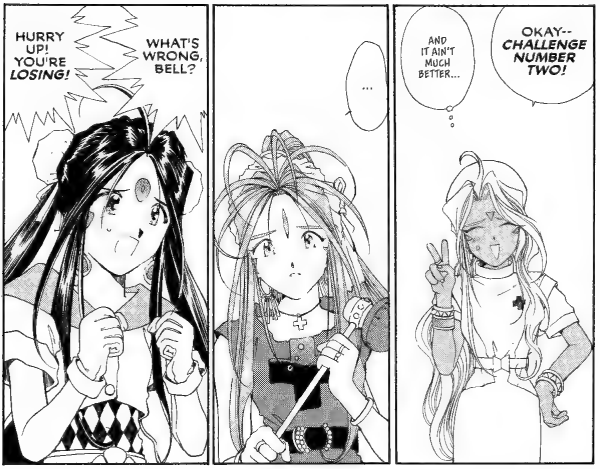
INVOKE YOUR ANGELS!
AND NOW, THE FIRST CHALLENGE!
COME FORTH, HOLY BELL!
...I, AS THE ELDEST, SHALL SIT IN JUDGMENT.
IN THAT CASE, IN CONFORMANCE WITH THE ANCIENT CODE...
I SUMMON THEE, GORGEOUS ROSE!


BEGIN!
kootchy koo
tickle tickle
kootchy koo

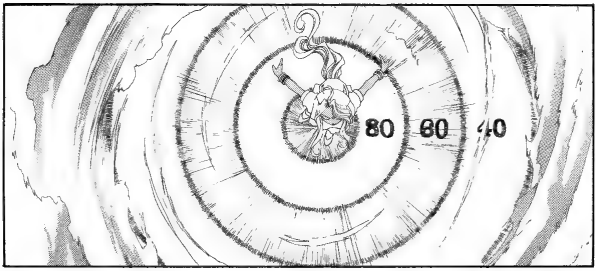
...AND EFFECTIVE FORM OF TORTURE.
...AND TICKLING IS THEIR MOST CLASSIC...
AN ANGEL'S FEELINGS ARE LINKED TO HER GODDESS...
YET, IN FACT, IT WAS A MORE DIFFICULT CHALLENGE THAN IT SEEMS.
THAT'S RIGHT, FOLKS. IF THIS IS THE FIRST CHALLENGE...
...NO WONDER NO ONE DOES THIS ANYMORE!
HMM?
...! OOH!
BWA HAW HAW!
NNGE!
ffmt

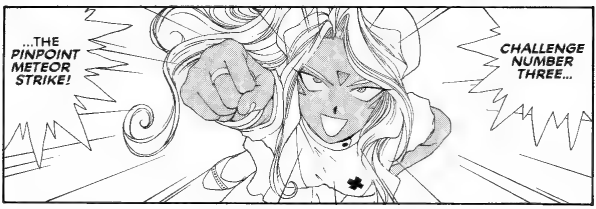

TURNS OUT THAT PEORTH WAS TICKLISH.
HMM.
HMM.
YAHOO! YOU DID IT, BIG SISTER!
THE WINNER, ROUND ONE-- BELL-DANDY!

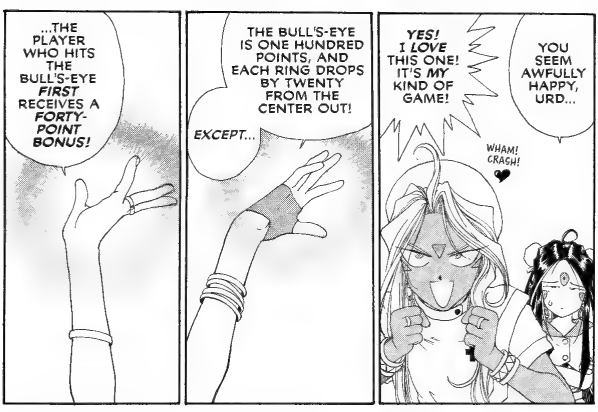

THE NEXT ONE I WIN-- GUARANTEED!
BECAUSE...
HMPH... ENJOY IT WHILE YOU CAN.


HURRY UP! YOU'RE LOSING!
WHAT'S WRONG, BELL?
...
AND IT AIN'T MUCH BETTER...
OKAY-- CHALLENGE NUMBER TWO!

♪
WHO'S NEXT, YOU HAIRY LITTLE VERMIN?!
NO! I-I JUST CAN'T DO IT!
...!
UNFORTUNATELY, BELL-DANDY'S WEAKNESS FOR CUTE THINGS BETRAYED HER.
POOR LITTLE DEAR!
HEH, HEH-- JUST AS I THOUGHT!
THE WINNER, ROUND TWO-- PEORTH.
AND SO, LADIES... ON TO THE FINAL ROUND!
twirl!
BOOMPH

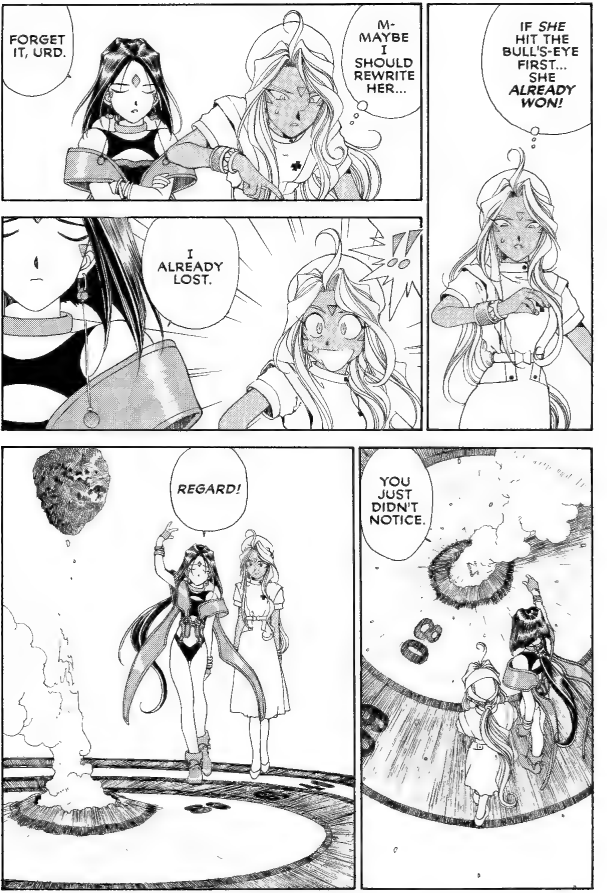

80
80
40

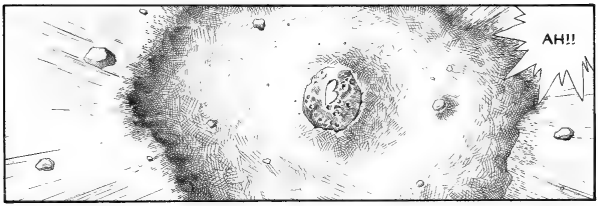

...THE PINPOINT METEOR STRIKE!
CHALLENGE NUMBER THREE...


...THE PLAYER WHO HITS THE BULL'S-EYE FIRST RECEIVES A FORTY-POINT BONUS!
THE BULL'S-EYE IS ONE HUNDRED POINTS, AND EACH RING DROPS BY TWENTY FROM THE CENTER OUT!
EXCEPT...
YES! I LOVE THIS ONE! IT'S MY KIND OF GAME!
YOU SEEM AWFULLY HAPPY, URD...
WHAM! CRASH!

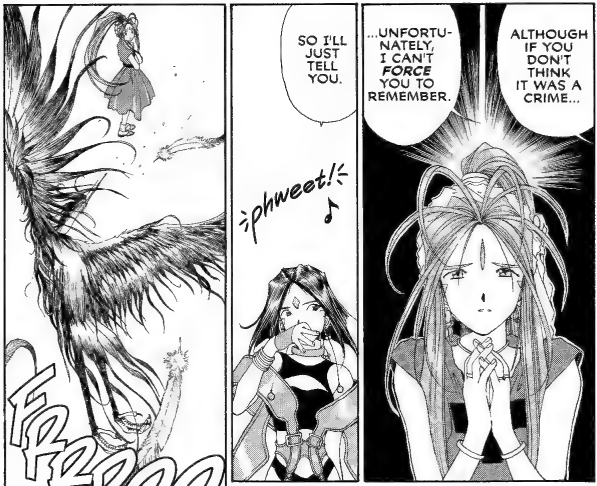
BEGIN!

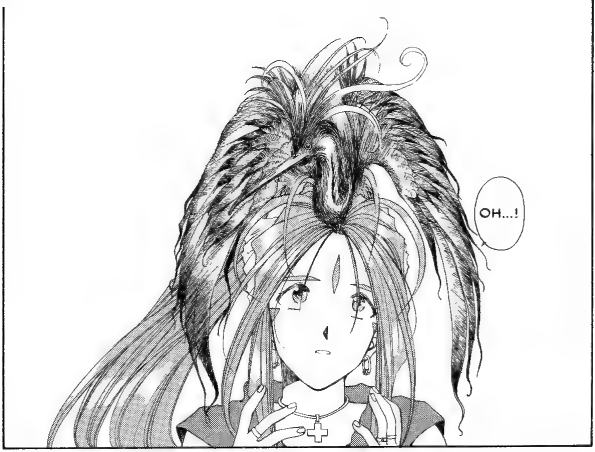
HMPH... SMALLER THAN I WOULD HAVE DONE...
SIZZZZLE
WELL, THEN-- SO, WHO WAS FIRST?
PEORTH'S RUNE?!
WHSSH
FWAM!

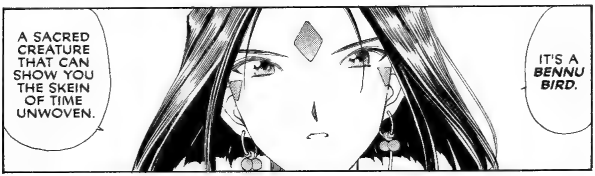

FORGET IT, URD.
M-MAYBE I SHOULD REWRITE HER...
IF *SHE* HIT THE BULL'S-EYE FIRST... SHE *ALREADY WON!*
I ALREADY LOST.
REGARD!
YOU JUST DIDN'T NOTICE.


AH!!

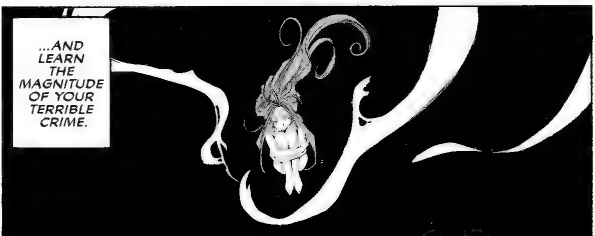
I SHALL HELP YOU REMEMBER.
VERY WELL... A PROMISE IS A PROMISE.
YAHOO! YOU DID IT, BIG SISTER!

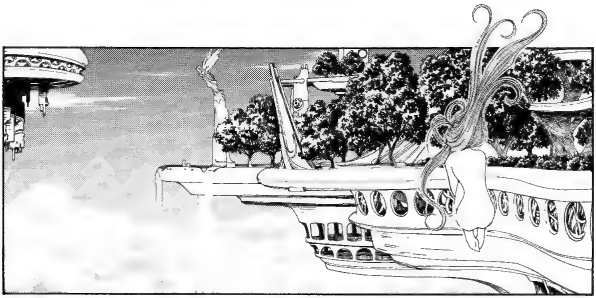

ALTHOUGH IF YOU DON'T THINK IT WAS A CRIME...
...UNFORTUNATELY, I CAN'T FORCE YOU TO REMEMBER.
SO I'LL JUST TELL YOU.
♪phweet!♪
FFFFFF


OH...!

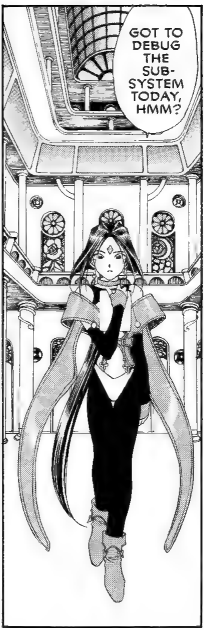

A SACRED CREATURE THAT CAN SHOW YOU THE SKEIN OF TIME UNWOVEN.
IT'S A *BENNU BIRD.*

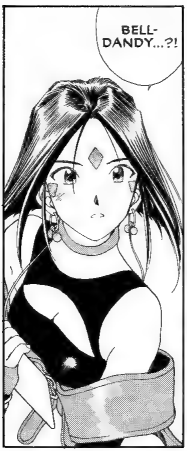
...YOU SHALL JOURNEY THROUGH OUR PAST...
AND NOW...

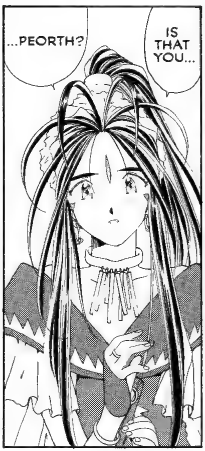

...AND LEARN THE MAGNITUDE OF YOUR TERRIBLE CRIME.

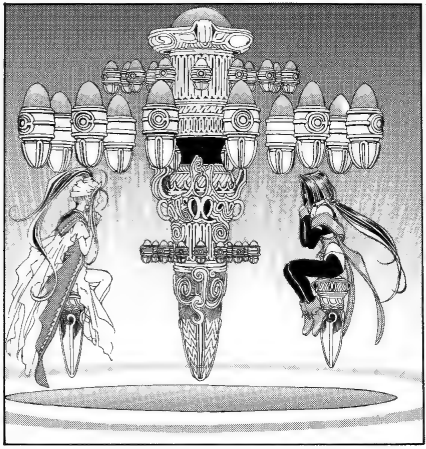


HELLO?
EXCUSE ME...
AT LEAST THERE'LL BE SOMEONE ELSE HERE TO HELP...


GOT TO DEBUG THE SUB-SYSTEM TODAY, HMM?

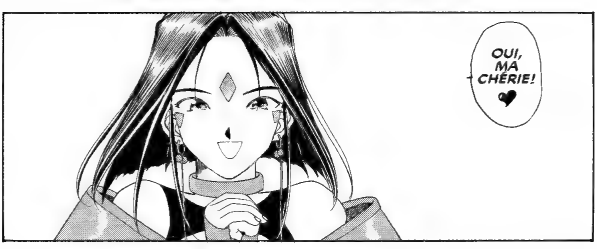

BELL-DANDY...?!


...PEORTH?
IS THAT YOU...



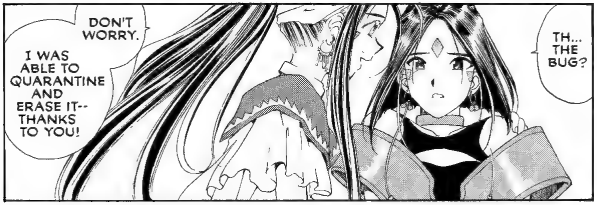
WOW! THIS IS SO GREAT! WE GET TO WORK TOGETHER!
ISN'T IT WONDER-FUL? I NEVER DREAMED IT'D BE YOU!

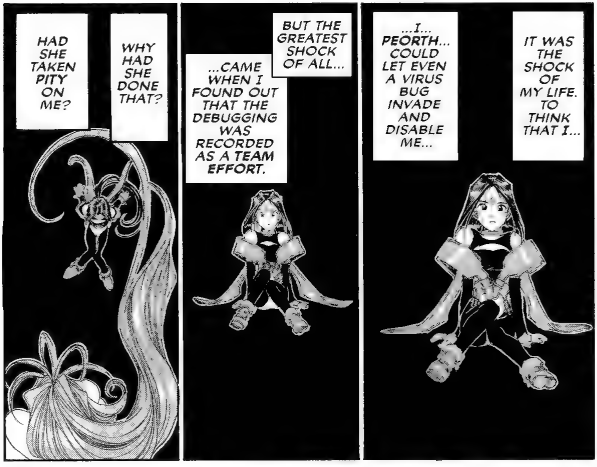
LET'S BOTH DO OUR BEST, SHALL WE?
THEY SAY TODAY'S BUG IS A LITTLE TRICKY.


OUI, MA CHÉRIE!

AND YET...
I... I CAN'T!!
I CAN'T ISOLATE IT!
OH, NO-- IT'S MERGED WITH A VIRUS!
IT'S BACK-TRACK-ING! I... AAH!
PEORTH...?
PEORTH!!
OOH...

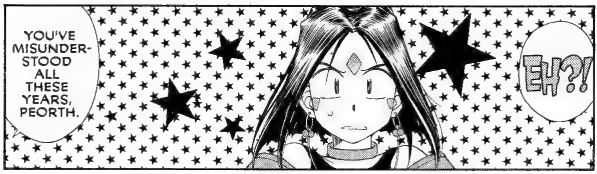
THANK GOOD-NESS...
...YOU'RE NOT HURT!

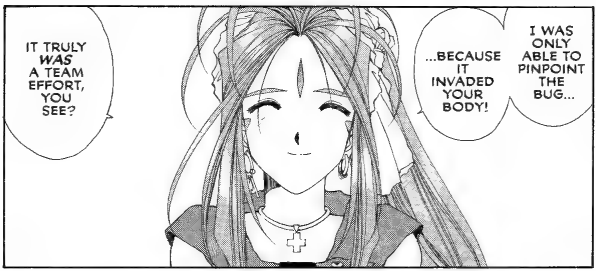

DON'T WORRY. I WAS ABLE TO QUARANTINE AND ERASE IT-- THANKS TO YOU!
TH... THE BUG?

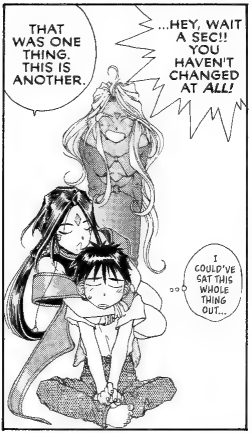

HAD SHE TAKEN PITY ON ME?
WHY HAD SHE DONE THAT?
BUT THE GREATEST SHOCK OF ALL...
...CAME WHEN I FOUND OUT THAT THE DEBUGGING WAS RECORDED AS A TEAM EFFORT.
...I... PEORTH... COULD LET EVEN A VIRUS BUG INVADE AND DISABLE ME...
IT WAS THE SHOCK OF MY LIFE. TO THINK THAT I...

PERHAPS YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE DOING ME A FAVOR.
WHY DIDN'T YOU TAKE ALL THE CREDIT, LIKE YOU DESERVED?
SO NOW YOU KNOW.
...THAT I HATE *MOST OF ALL!*
BUT IT'S JUST THAT KIND OF SMUG HYPOCRISY...
OH...
...

WHAT A *RELIEF!*
IS THAT ALL?!


YOU'VE MISUNDERSTOOD ALL THESE YEARS, PEORTH.
EH?!


IT TRULY *WAS* A TEAM EFFORT, YOU SEE?
...BECAUSE IT INVADED YOUR BODY!
I WAS ONLY ABLE TO PINPOINT THE BUG...

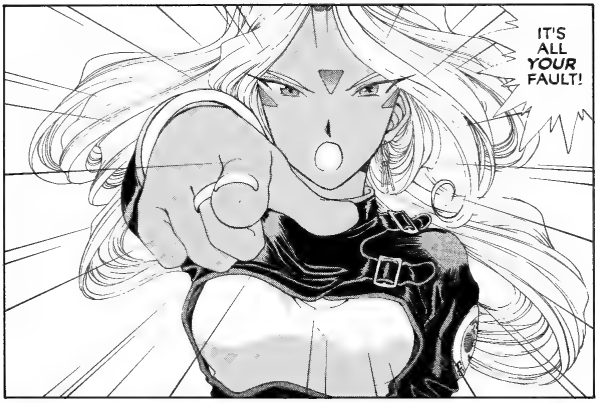

THAT WAS ONE THING. THIS IS ANOTHER.
...HEY, WAIT A SEC!! YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED AT *ALL!*
I COULD'VE SAT THIS WHOLE THING OUT...

SO IT WAS ALL JUST PEORTH'S PATENTED PARANOIA...?
OH, WELL-- AT LEAST IT SHOULD BE A BIT QUIETER AROUND HERE NOW...

THUD
oh.

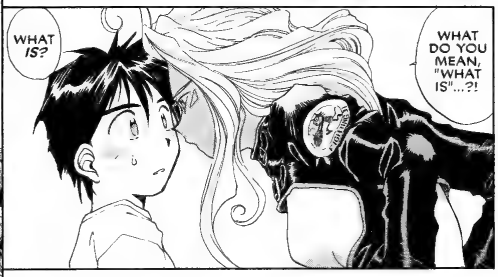
CHAPTER 72

What Men Really Want


IT'S ALL *YOUR* FAULT!

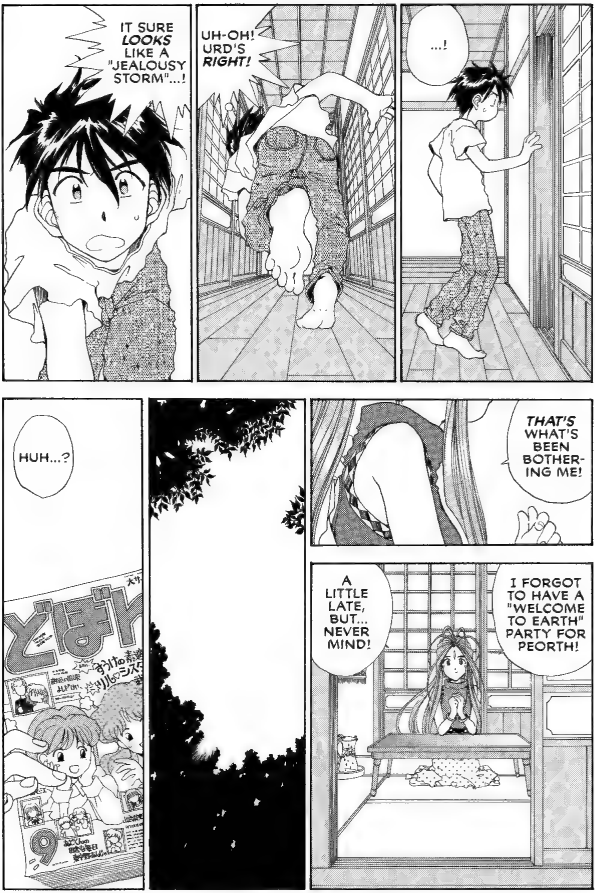
WH-*WHAT* IS?!

...!

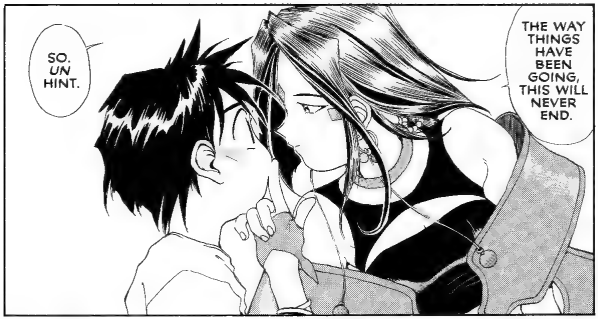

WHAT *IS?*
WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "WHAT IS"...?!

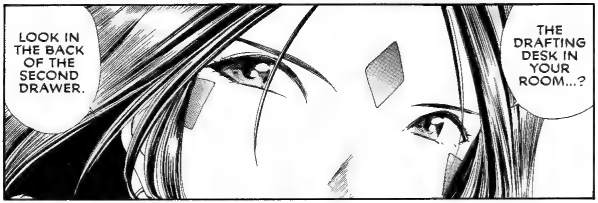
DON'T YOU CARE ABOUT BELLDANDY'S FEELINGS?!
WELL, THEN HURRY UP AND GET RID OF HER.
...HAVING PEORTH CRAWL OVER YOU ALL THE TIME?!
SAYYY... MAYBE YOU'RE ACTUALLY ENJOY-ING...
NO! NOT ME! NOT!
...OF HER JEALOUSY STORMS?
OR MAYBE YOU'VE FORGOTTEN THE POWER...
THIS SHADOW WELLS UP IN MY HEART

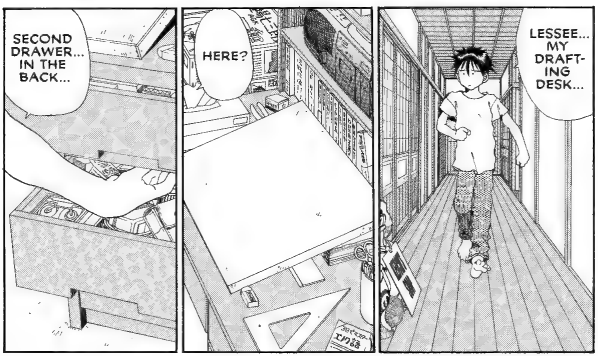
TAKE YOUR TIME, HON.
EXCUSE ME!
I'LL BE RIGHT BACK...
Tea Room


IT SURE *LOOKS* LIKE A "JEALOUSY STORM"...!
UH-OH! URD'S *RIGHT!*
...!
HUH...?
THAT'S WHAT'S BEEN BOTHERING ME!
A LITTLE LATE, BUT... NEVER MIND!
I FORGOT TO HAVE A "WELCOME TO EARTH" PARTY FOR PEORTH!

YOU'VE GOT TO TELL ME, PEORTH! WHAT EXACTLY DO I NEED TO SAY TO YOU?!
...YOUR HEART'S DESIRE?
UH...
ISN'T YOUR "HEART'S DESIRE" SUPPOSED TO COME FROM YOU?
WHAT ODD THINGS YOU DO ASK, KEIICHI.
...
STILL...
...THE SYSTEM WON'T UPLOAD IT, NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY.
IN FACT, UNLESS THE REQUEST CAN BE CROSS-VERIFIED INTERNALLY BETWEEN THE HEART AND MIND OF THE CLIENT...


SO. UN HINT.
THE WAY THINGS HAVE BEEN GOING, THIS WILL NEVER END.


LOOK IN THE BACK OF THE SECOND DRAWER.
THE DRAFTING DESK IN YOUR ROOM...?


SECOND DRAWER... IN THE BACK...
HERE?
LESSEE... MY DRAFTING DESK...

SHE... SHE MEANS--
?
PEORTH!!
YOU CALL THIS A HINT?!
OUI. A BIG HINT.

...
...AT LEAST FOR YOUR OWN SAKE...?
KEIICHI, COULD YOU PERHAPS BE A LITTLE MORE HONEST...
WH-WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO TELL ME?! HUH? WHAT?!
FINALLY.
YEAH, I SEE.
YEAH.
AM I RIGHT...?
YOU CAME HERE TO SATISFY MY SEXUAL DESIRES.

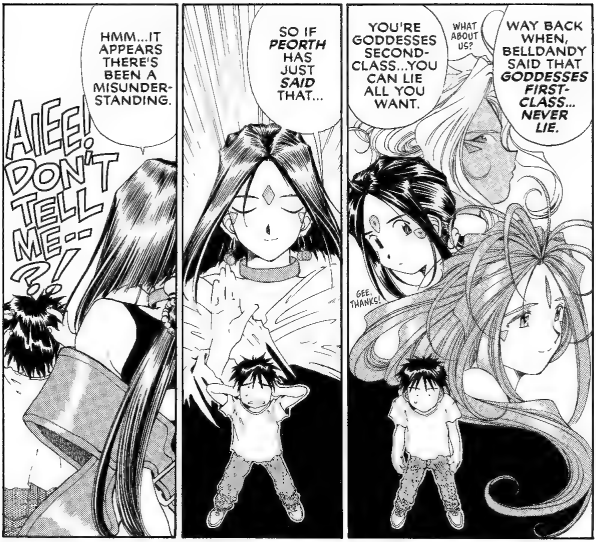
...SO LET'S DO IT!
...
AH! MA DEESSE! DON'T TELL ME YOU DIDN'T... YOU REALLY DIDN'T--
...YOU DO NOW...
WELL...
DOING... THAT... WHEN THERE'S NO LOVE INVOLVED...?
I JUST CAN'T IMAGINE...MUMBLE, MUTTER...
NO MEANS NO, PEORTH.
WH-- WH-- WH--
NO.

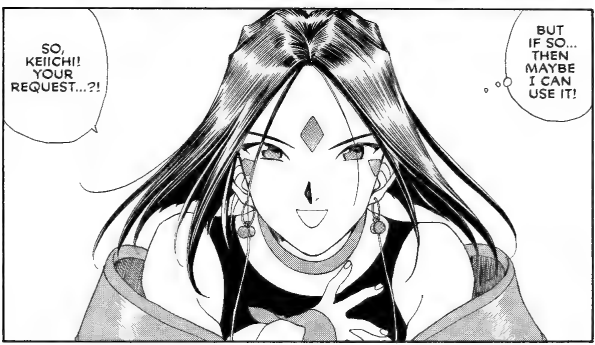
"...NO GO."
SO... YOU SAY "NO LOVE...
YEAH.
...LOVE BETWEEN US?
YOU SAY... THERE'S...
NO...
WHAT DO *YOU* THINK?
...THERE'S SOME-THING I HAVE TO SAY.
I SEE. WELL, IN THAT CASE...

I, PEORTH OF THE ROSES...

...HEREBY DECLARE MY *LOVE FOR THEE*, KEIICHI!

WAS THAT ALL YOU NEEDED TO HEAR?
WELL...?
W... WAIT A SEC!
HELLO?!
HELLO?!
?


HMM...IT APPEARS THERE'S BEEN A MISUNDER-STANDING.
AIEE! DON'T TELL ME--?!
SO IF *PEORTH* HAS JUST *SAID* THAT...
YOU'RE GODDESSES SECOND-CLASS...YOU CAN LIE ALL YOU WANT.
WHAT ABOUT US?
WAY BACK WHEN, BELLDANDY SAID THAT *GODDESSES FIRST-CLASS... NEVER LIE.*
GEE, THANKS!


SO, KEIICHI! YOUR REQUEST...?!
BUT IF SO... THEN MAYBE I CAN USE IT!

...!
"I WANT YOU...
...TO SATISFY MY HEART'S DESIRE."
ER...
DID I DO THAT RIGHT...?
FZZK

I...I CHANGED MY MIND!!
W-WAIT! STOP!
YEEK!
SHHH...AMM

NO!! STOP!!
YOUR REQUEST...
...HAS BEEN APPROVED!

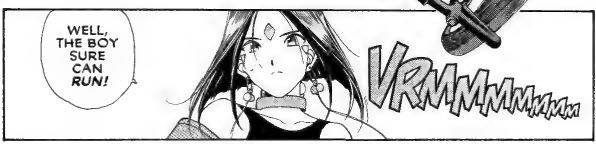
oh
AND SO...
...IT'S TIME FOR ME TO SATISFY YOUR HEART'S DESIRE!
twang
YAEE !!

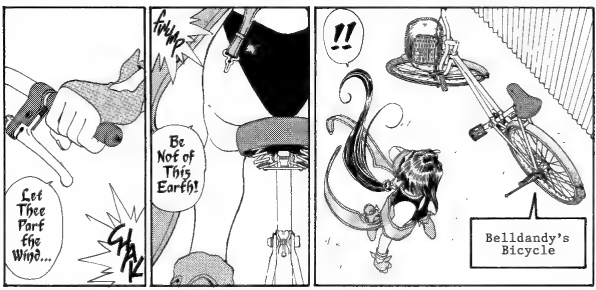
"...KEI-ICHI..."
ARRGG! I'M SUCH A FOOL!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO RUN FROM ME...
FWAP
OH, KEIICHI! I--
YOW!!
FWHDD
KYAH!

I'M OKAY.
I... I'M SORRY!
lub-DUP
BUT WHAT ABOUT YOU?
lub-DUP
lub-DUP
lub-DUP
lub-DUP
lub-DUP
lub-DUP
lub-DUP
lub-DUP
lub-DUP
I...
OH!
DIDN'T YOU HIT YOUR MOUTH ON THE DOOR...?
I... IT...
IT'S FUH-FUH-FINE!
SOSP

YOUUU!
sproing
I SAW...
WHOOPS! FORGOT I'M A FUGITIVE!
BRMMBBBB
Y-
--YES, DEAR!
C'MON, BELL! WE GOTTA BEAT IT!
QUICK! WE GOTTA GO GO!
OKAY, I'M READY!

VRM


WELL, THE BOY SURE CAN RUN!
VRMMMMMMMMM


Let Thee Part the Wind...
CHAK
FOLLOW
Be Not of This Earth!
!!
Belldandy's Bicycle

WHOOSSH
AFTER THEM!
As the Wings of Eagles!
ting
SHEEE
WHSSH
NOW WE ENTER... ENDGAME!
BWA HA HA HA HA!!

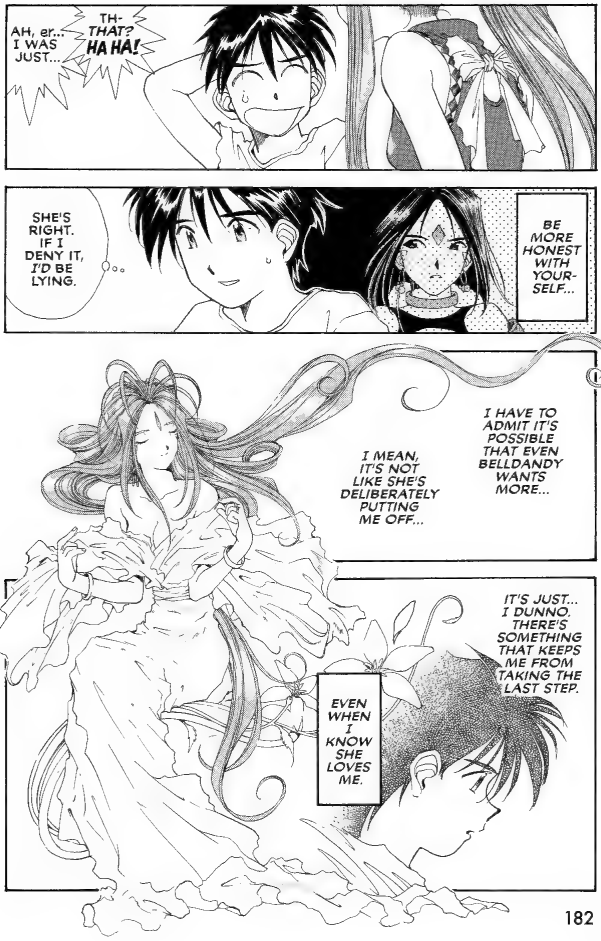
VRMBB
whew~
THAT WAS TOO CLOSE.
I'M SAFE FOR NOW, BUT WHA--
?!
!!
HA HA HA HA HA HA
IT...IT CAN'T BE...?!
WHOSE?! NOT MINE!!
I SHALL SATE YOUR BURNING LUST!!
WHSSH
KENGH!!!
WHSSH

JUST... MY WISH...
I DIDN'T DO ANY-THING!
KEIICHI! WHAT ON EARTH DID YOU DO TO PEORTH?!
YOUR WISH...?
CAN'T WE TALK ABOUT THIS LATER?!
WHSSH
Fix Your Gaze Upon the Faintest Star... Bend Your Ear to the Faintest Whisper...
VERY WELL... I'LL TAKE CARE OF PEORTH.

?!
BOMF
In this instant Let the Dimensions Overfold...
...And Guide Her into a World of Miniature!
BWA HA HA!
NOW I KNOW YOUR DARK DESIRES, KEIICHI!
AIEE!
BELL-DANDY!
GRRR!
...YOU'RE PRETTY DAMN GOOD!
YOU...
SQUEEAK
SQUEEAK

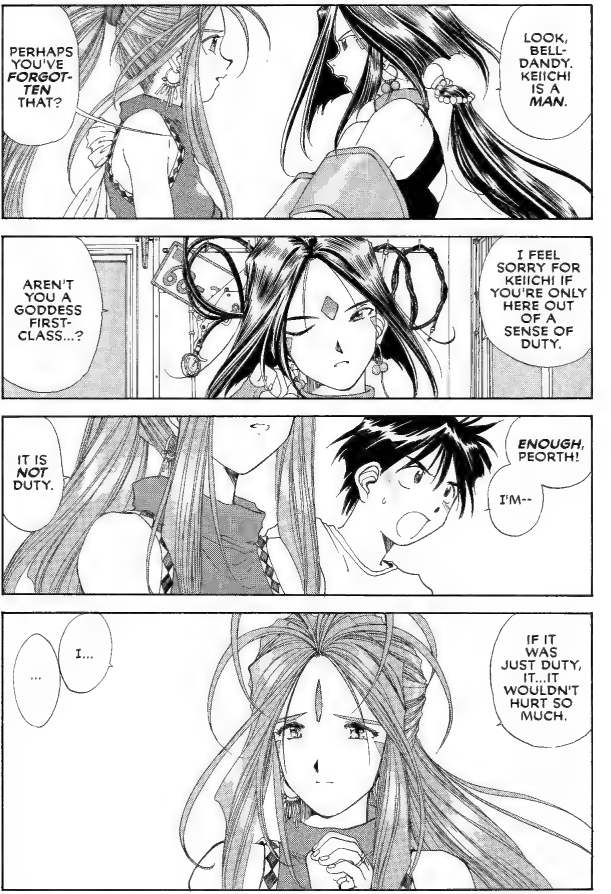
▲ SWITCHING TO THE RESERVE TANK

OH MAN... WHAT CAN I DO?
ROBO.BOY
CORDLESS
WHAT YOU SAID... ABOUT YOUR WISH...
YEAH?
KEI-ICHI...?

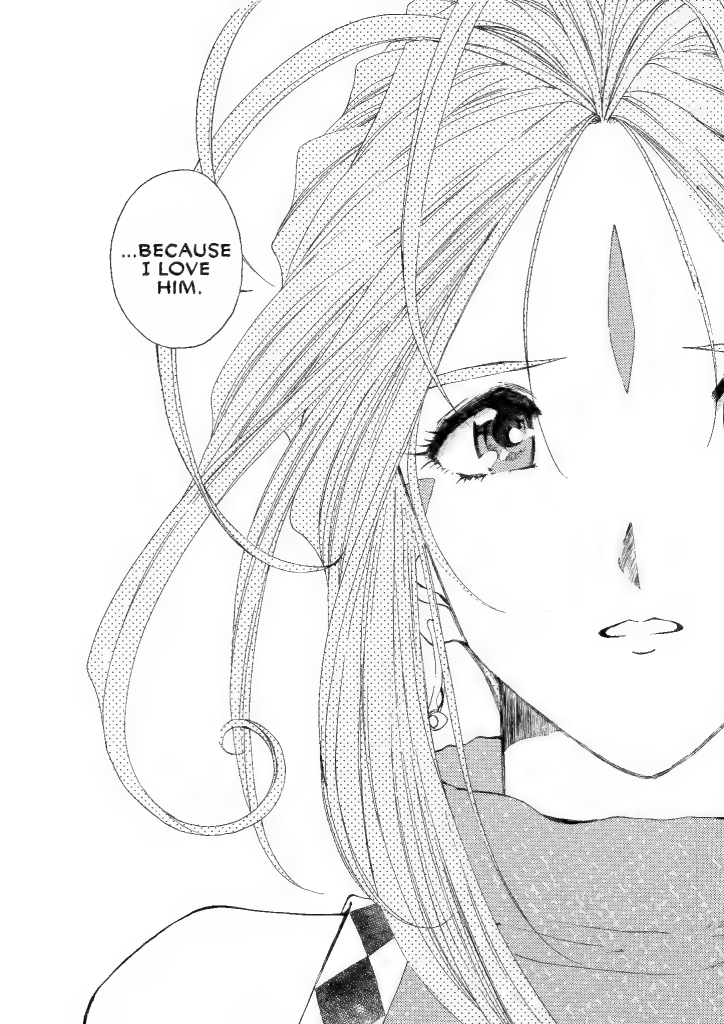

AH, er... I WAS JUST...
TH-THAT? HA HA!
SHE'S RIGHT. IF I DENY IT, I'D BE LYING.
BE MORE HONEST WITH YOUR-SELF...
I HAVE TO ADMIT IT'S POSSIBLE THAT EVEN BELLDANDY WANTS MORE...
I MEAN, IT'S NOT LIKE SHE'S DELIBERATELY PUTTING ME OFF...
IT'S JUST... I DUNNO. THERE'S SOMETHING THAT KEEPS ME FROM TAKING THE LAST STEP.
EVEN WHEN I KNOW SHE LOVES ME.

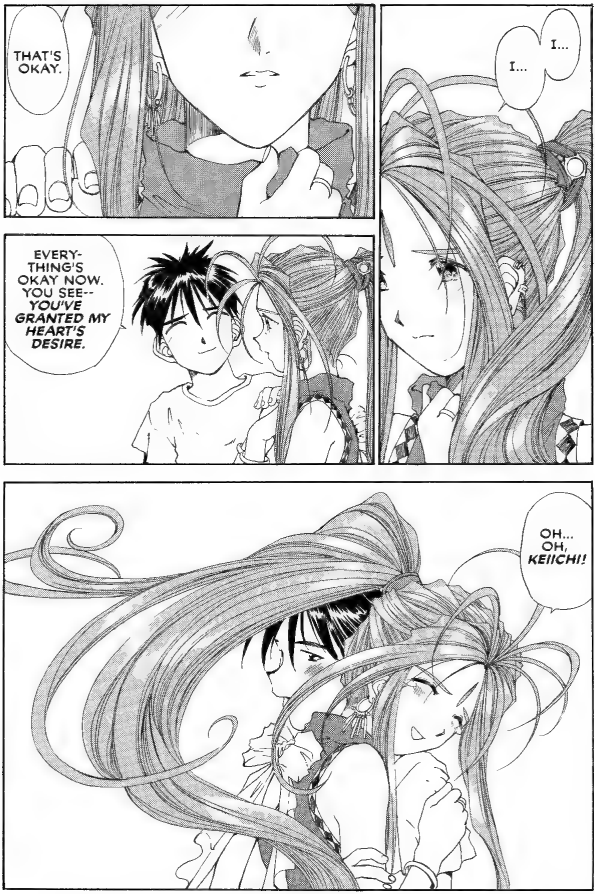
IF I... JUST MAYBE--?
WHAM
BELL... WOULD YOU... IF I...
KEI-ICHI...?
BUT... DO I REALLY KNOW THAT...?
...YOU CALL THIS A HIDE-OUT?!
THMP
I KNOW ALL THE LITTLE HIDEY-HOLES ON THIS CAMPUS...
HA. REMEMBER, TAMIYA GAVE ME THE GRAND TOUR.
THMP

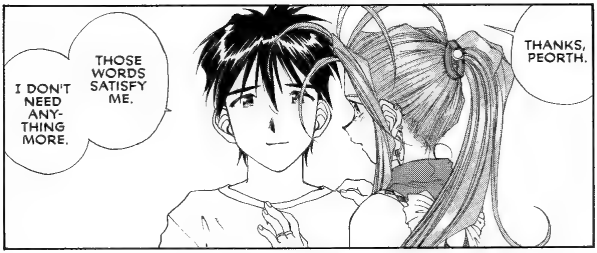
...IT'S TIME FOR ME TO FULFILL YOUR WISH!
AND NOW, KEI-ICHI....
"TORTURE HIM"...?
YOU'RE THE ONE TORTURING HIM!
DON'T TORTURE HIM ANY MORE!
STOP IT, PEORTH!
N-NO! HELP--

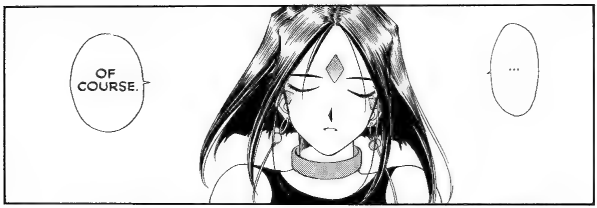

PERHAPS YOU'VE *FORGOTTEN* THAT?
LOOK, BELLDANDY. KEIICHI IS A *MAN*.
AREN'T YOU A GODDESS FIRST-CLASS...?
I FEEL SORRY FOR KEIICHI IF YOU'RE ONLY HERE OUT OF A SENSE OF DUTY.
IT IS *NOT* DUTY.
ENOUGH, PEORTH!
I'M--
...
I...
IF IT WAS JUST DUTY, IT...IT WOULDN'T HURT SO MUCH.

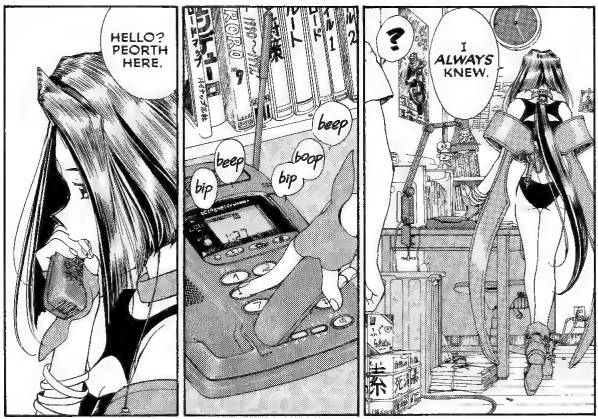
I'M HERE...

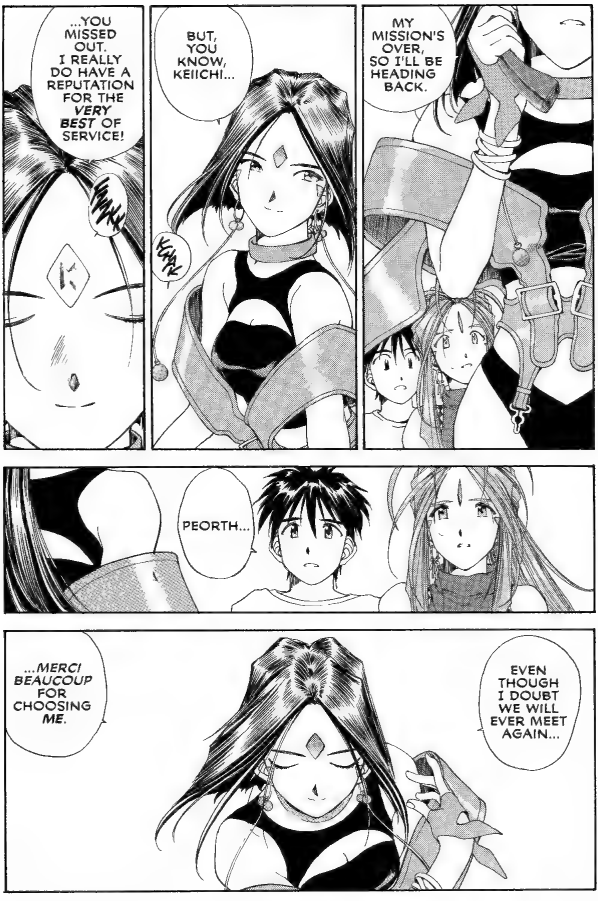

...BECAUSE I LOVE HIM.

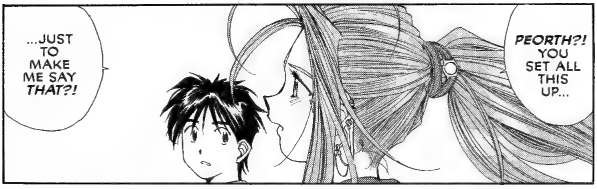

THAT'S OKAY.
I...
I...
EVERY-THING'S OKAY NOW. YOU SEE-- YOU'VE GRANTED MY HEART'S DESIRE.
OH... OH, KEIICHI!


I DON'T NEED ANY-THING MORE.
THOSE WORDS SATISFY ME.
THANKS, PEORTH.


OF COURSE.
...


HELLO? PEORTH HERE.
beep
beep
boop
bip
bip
?
I ALWAYS KNEW.


...YOU MISSED OUT. I REALLY DO HAVE A REPUTATION FOR THE *VERY BEST* OF SERVICE!
BUT, YOU KNOW, KEIICHI...
MY MISSION'S OVER, SO I'LL BE HEADING BACK.
PEORTH...
...*MERCI BEAUCOUP* FOR CHOOSING *ME*.
EVEN THOUGH I DOUBT WE WILL EVER MEET AGAIN...


...JUST TO MAKE ME SAY *THAT?!*
PEORTH?! YOU SET ALL THIS UP...

...I JUST CAN'T HATE YOU ANY-MORE.
AND YET, WHEN I FEEL IT...

OH, BELLDANDY, BELLDANDY!
THERE'S SOMETHING VERY PURE AND SPECIAL ABOUT YOU, YOU KNOW?
IT'S QUITE ANNOY-ING.

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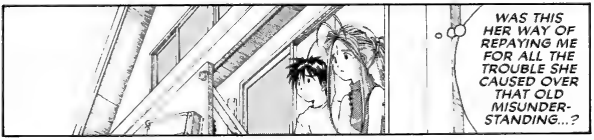
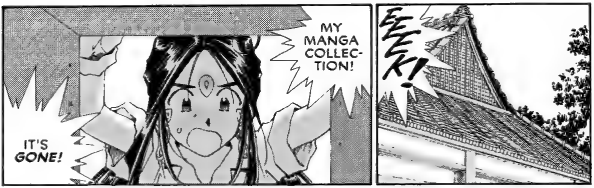
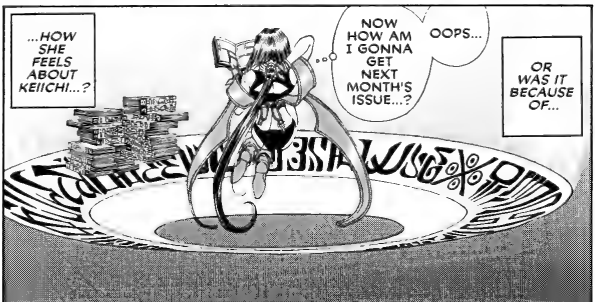

WAS THIS HER WAY OF REPAYING ME FOR ALL THE TROUBLE SHE CAUSED OVER THAT OLD MISUNDER-STANDING...?

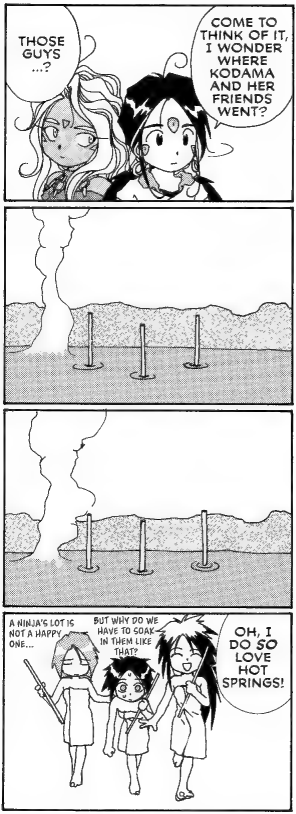

MY MANGA COLLEC-TION!
IT'S GONE!
EEEK!


...HOW SHE FEELS ABOUT KEIICHI...?
NOW HOW AM I GONNA GET NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE...?
OOPS...
OR WAS IT BECAUSE OF...

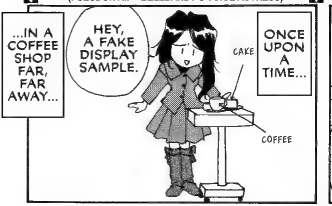
A NINJA'S LOT IS DEFINITELY NOT A HAPPY ONE

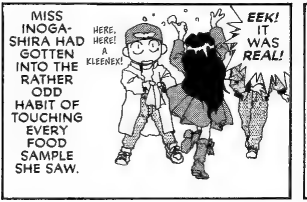
ACT YOUR AGE!
WAAAH! I WANNA GO TO THE HOT SPRINGS TOO!!
I BET THOSE STUPID NINJA ARE PIGGING OUT ON GOURMET MEALS!
YEAH... YOU CAN ALMOST TASTE THE SALT, HUH?
YUM...THESE ONES BY THE SEASHORE SURE TASTE DIFFERENT.
SKULD, DEAR... WOULD YOU LIKE SOME, TOO?

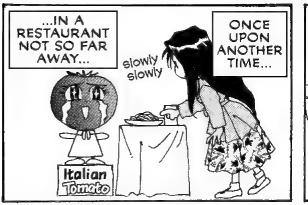
A NINJA'S LOT IS NOT A HAPPY ONE


THOSE GUYS ...?
COME TO THINK OF IT, I WONDER WHERE KODAMA AND HER FRIENDS WENT?
A NINJA'S LOT IS NOT A HAPPY ONE...
BUT WHY DO WE HAVE TO SOAK IN THEM LIKE THAT?
OH, I DO SO LOVE HOT SPRINGS!

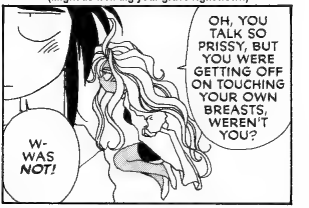
OH MY MANGA-KA! (SPECIAL ROAD-TRIP EDITION)
BATTLE! THE CHALLENGE OF THE FAKE FOOD SAMPLES!
AN ALMOST-TRUE STORY STARRING "KIKUKO INOGASHIRA"
(PSEUDONYM— BELLDANDY'S VOICE ACTRESS)

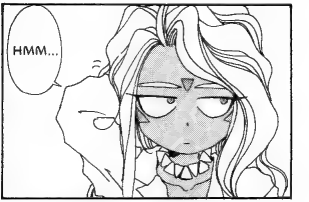


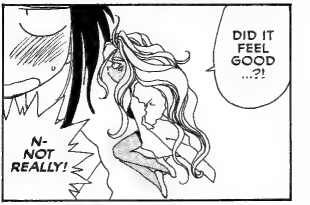

MISS INOGASHIRA HAD GOTTEN INTO THE RATHER ODD HABIT OF TOUCHING EVERY FOOD SAMPLE SHE SAW.
HERE, HERE! A KLEENEX!
EEK! IT WAS REAL!

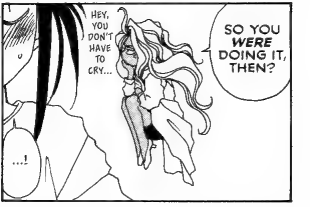


MORISATO, YOU MAY HAVE BREASTS, BUT YOU'RE **STILL** A GUY!
(Might as well dig your grave right now!!)









Any similarity with any person living or dead is purely coincidental! Honest! I swear!

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English-language version
produced by Dark Horse Comics

OH MY GODDESS! Vol. 12
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Published by Dark Horse Manga
A division of Dark Horse Comics, Inc.
10956 SE Main Street
Milwaukie, OR 97222
darkhorse.com

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First edition: July 2009
ISBN 978-1-59582-322-9

1 3 5 7 9 10 8 6 4 2

Printed in Canada

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Dear Tohma-san,

I am writing this letter to you in hopes it reaches you from far away and is translated enough so that its meaning still stays intact, so please regard me kindly. I wanted to be able to write you in regard to your book *Oh My Goddess! First End*. Your book and your writing were wonderful! Thank you! Thank you! Thank you so much for continuing with the *Oh My Goddess!* storyline! I wanted to keep this letter short since I know you to be a very busy person, and continuing this letter with compliments and praises would probably eventually bore you. So beyond writing to tell you what a beautiful story you wrote, I am writing in hopes that you will be further encouraged to continue writing the *Oh My Goddess!* storyline in novel form. You are one of the most qualified to be able to write such a story since you have such a strong connection with the overall story and characters of *Oh My Goddess!* I'm begging you to please continue and keep the stories and world alive. I thank you for your time and patience in this letter. Thank you again Tohma-san. Have a beautiful day.

Respectfully,
Michael McGee
Conyers, GA

I very much agree that Yumi Tohma's long involvement with the character of Urd created a great opportunity for her to express the *Oh My Goddess!* story in her own way. Sometimes you can tell that a voice actor thinks carefully about the people they portray; you can see this also, for example, in Megumi Hayashibara and Yuko Miyamura's essays on Rei Ayanami and Asuka Langley Soryu. Don't worry, she's still "Soryu" in Dark Horse's *Neon Genesis Evangelion: The Shinji Ikari Raising Project*—whoops, wrong manga (Or is it? As I like to point out, *Oh My Goddess!* was giving Anno props before *Evangelion*. Before *Nadia*, even).

Dear Enchantress,

OK, I've never done this before, so forgive me if I sound a little weird. First off, it was all thanks to *Ah! My Goddess* that I got into anime and manga in the first place, and ever since, I haven't been able to go into a bookstore without looking for the manga section. The way that Keiichi is a spineless wonder is one of the reasons I started to read it, because I could sort of relate to him back then, while the other reason is the funny stunts Urd, Skuld and Peorth pull off during their stay there. I also love the way Belldandy is so kind and loving, and even if someone tried to break them up, she would stay by Keiichi's side, no matter what. And if I never saw *Ah! My Goddess*, I don't think I would've ever become a *Eureka 7*, or *.Hack//* fan either, and met all these kinds of people, including some friends

that I don't think I would've ever met had I not been into this stuff. In a way, had I not seen this or even heard of it, I don't think I would've even known about you. But, since I did, I can say that I am glad that I saw it, and hope to see more keep on coming. Thank you guys. But if I may, I have a few questions of my own to ask you. First off, is there going to be another *AIMG* movie, who is YOUR favorite character, and if you could, which character might you bring back into the manga?

Sincerely,
Joseph Marin
AKA Nirvash Destroyer

No, you don't sound weird, but what's this *"Ah! My Goddess"* you keep referring to? *Naaaaan chatte*—just kidding. If you wrote in here, you know it's all the same series!

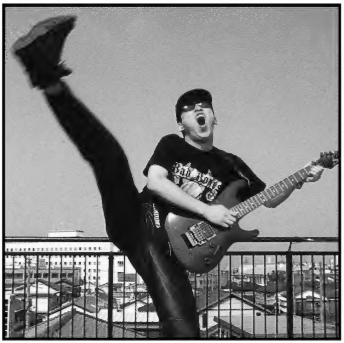
I think you point out that one of the best things about anime and manga is how it allows you to meet new people, because you've got an immediate common interest. This is true regardless of race, nationality or religion; I've met Iranian, Syrian, Chilean, Mexican, French, Dutch, and Potawatomi fans (she used her dividend from the tribe's casino to go to anime cons). And why not? No matter where we are in the world, we all face in one common direction: towards Japan.

I haven't heard anything specific about a new *Oh My Goddess!* movie, although, considering the enduring popularity of the manga, it can hardly be ruled out (think how long it took for there to be an *OMG!* TV series!).

As editor (much like a mother), it is my duty to like all characters equally. I will say, however, that one of my favorite things for characters to do in *Oh My Goddess!* is gearhead stuff—races, working on bikes, and so forth. It may be because that's something you can do in the real world (unlike, say, summoning air elementals or calling down lightning ^_^). It's also a place, of course, where the enthusiasm of the artist himself shines through. As you all know, we switch off between old and new volumes of *OMG!* each two months, so coming up next will be a new one, vol. 33—and it happens to center on Chihiro, her high-school friends, motorcycle construction, and, of course, a race. Belldandy is known for her beautiful costumes (as she can conjure them out of thin air), but she has a special beauty just in mechanic's overalls.

I don't mean that in a mecha-fetish way; it's more like the philosophy of life you see in her concern for performance, workmanship, and engineering. Belldandy wants to take care of creation, to see that things work well and come to be, whether they're people or machines (in the case of Sora or Skuld, she taught both lessons at the same time). She uses her power to help, instead of insisting she be feared and worshiped for that power. One of the things that's so appealing about the goddess sisters is that they're down to earth in behavior as well as fact. Even though they *are* goddesses, they don't expect people to bow down before them (when Urd invites you to lick her sneakers, it's just for the sake of karaoke). Sayoko Mishima's jealousy of Belldandy (which becomes near-catastrophic in vol. 14) is ironic because she *does* expect to be worshiped, as the goddesses don't.

As for bringing a character back into the manga, I'd like to see more Megumi, please.



Creator Kosuke Fujishima in 1995!

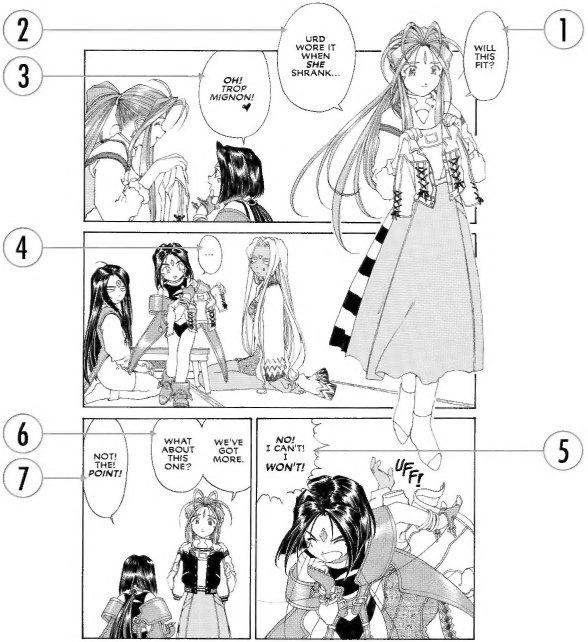
His message to fans in the original Japanese *Oh My Goddess!* Vol. 12:

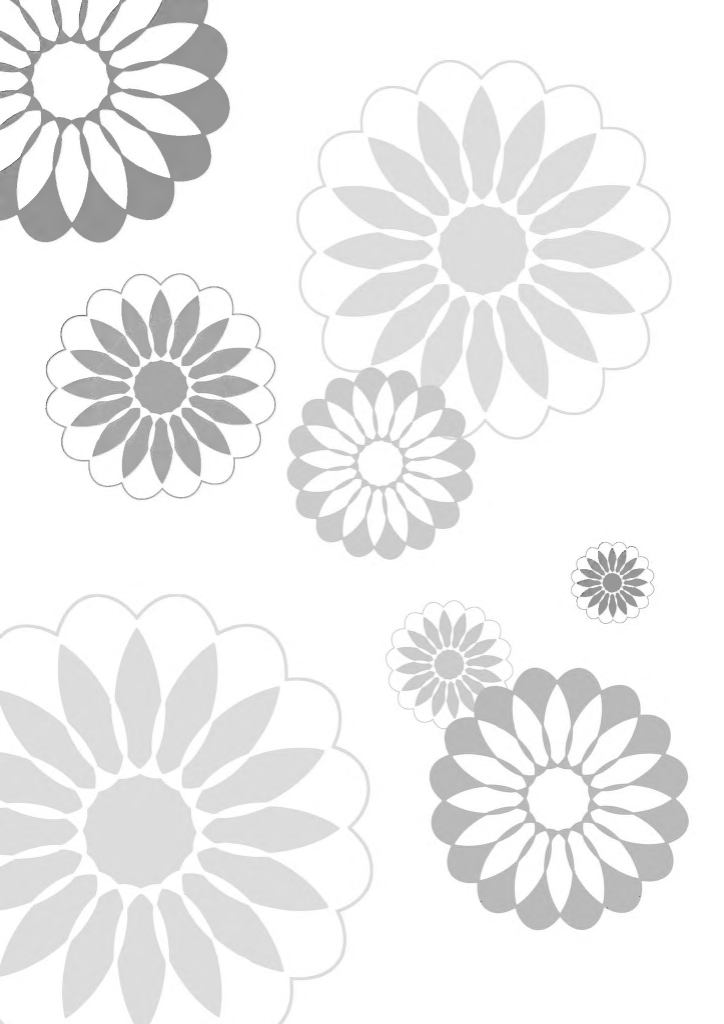
Hey, everybody, have you locked yourself inside the house? Sit in your house all day, and you too will become a manga-ka! Let's head outside and scream at the top of our lungs! Let's howl at the blue skies and kick the clouds around! WHOAAAAAAA!!! But please be sure to read my manga. WHOAAAAAAA!!!

P.S. I think I just sprained my crotch.

STOP! This is the back of the book!

This manga collection is translated into English, but arranged in right-to-left reading format to maintain the artwork's visual orientation as originally drawn and published in Japan. If you've never read comics this way before, take a look at the diagram below to give yourself an idea of how to go about it. Basically, you'll be starting in the upper right-hand corner, and will read each word balloon and panel moving right to left. It may take a little getting used to, but you should get the hang of it very quickly. Have fun! If this is the millionth manga you've read this way, never mind. ^_^





MANGA/HUMOR

Oh My Goddess!

ああっ女神さまっ 12

MAYBE YOU THINK PEORTH

couldn't cause any more trouble—well, think again! Determined to provide Keiichi "better service" than Belldandy, she's dragging him out on a date . . . having studied human mating customs through shojo manga! But what is the secret slight that truly drives Peorth's efforts against her rival?

Plus six pages of color, *Mini-Goddess* strips, a message from creator Kosuke Fujishima, and your fan mail!

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